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Wednesday October 2 1996

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Andorra F 1.50	India I 1.50	Israel I 1.50
Argentina A 1.50	Indonesia I 1.50	Italy I 2.00
Australia A 1.50	Iran I 1.50	Japan J 1.50
Austria A 1.50	Iraq I 1.50	Korea S 1.50
Bahrain B 1.50	Israel I 1.50	Latvia L 1.50
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Brazil B 1.50	Kazakhstan K 1.50	Malta M 1.50
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# The Guardian International

Printed in London, Manchester, Frankfurt and Roubaix

NEWSPAPER OF THE YEAR 46.873

Dan Atkinson on the crisis in the gems trade

## Diamond dogs

G2 with European weather

Henry Porter on why it's time to lay off Fergie

## A defence of the duchess

G2 page 4

Society

## Psst...wanna buy a country?

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Major under pressure to release secret document that would seal MP's fate

# Hamilton admits: I took money

'I've nothing to say on that.'  
— Neil Hamilton, asked outside the High Court whether he had lied to Michael Heseltine, the Deputy Prime Minister

'Michael Heseltine feels that as he and the Government co-operated fully with the courts, he has nothing further to add.'  
— a spokesman for Mr Heseltine

'It would not be in the public interest that a responsible newspaper publishing articles... about a matter of constitutional national importance... [should pay] the whole costs of answering the subpoenas [sent to the government].'  
— Mr Justice Moreland, allowing Mr Hamilton to drop his libel action

'We will change the law to make the Tories clean up their act.'  
— Tony Blair



Neil Hamilton with his wife, Christine, at the High Court after formally abandoning his libel action. PHOTOGRAPH: GRAHAM TURNER

David Leigh and David Palfister

**T**HE Government was acting in increasing pressure last night to release a confidential Cabinet Office document which proves that Neil Hamilton lied about his payments from the lobbyist Ian Greer.

Paddy Ashdown, the Liberal Democrat leader, called on the Prime Minister to pass the document and other internal minutes to Sir Gordon Downey, the parliamentary standards commissioner, as a matter of urgency. He said: "It's now absolutely imperative in order to reassure the public about the integrity of Parliament and its MPs."

In an extraordinary development last night, Mr Hamilton was reported by BBC News to have admitted that he gave an assurance to the deputy prime minister, Michael Heseltine, that he had no financial relationship with Mr Greer. He also admitted that he had received two payments from Mr Greer. But he told the BBC that this did not constitute a financial arrangement.

## 21 Tories took Greer cash

**MICHAEL PORTILLO**, the Defence Secretary, and Gerry Malone, the Health Minister, are among 21 Tory MPs who received secret donations from the lobbyist Ian Greer, according to a Conservative Party memorandum passed to the Guardian, writes David Hencke.

Other prominent Tories whose campaigns were helped during the 1987 election include Lynda Chalker, the Overseas Development Minister; David Mellor, the former heritage secretary and Sir Michael Hirst, chairman of the Scottish Conservative Party.

The Labour MPs Doug Hoyle, chairman of the party and Chris Smith, the health spokesman, also received help from Mr Greer at the time, as did Alan Beith, the Liberal Democrats' deputy leader.

radio station that the Guardian had invented its disclosures through "cowardly opportunism" because he had run out of money to pursue his case. Asked about witness statements detailed in the Guardian saying he had taken money, he said it would be "contempt of court" to discuss them.

Later he told BBC television news: "I am not a liar." It was reported in two papers yesterday that the disclosed documents included a minute of a conversation taken by the Cabinet Secretary, Sir Robin Butler, in which Mr Heseltine asked Mr Hamilton whether he had ever had any financial links with Mr Greer. Mr Hamilton said that he had not.

The existence of an undertaking given by Mr Hamilton to Mr Heseltine in an attempt to save his job was confirmed in open court yesterday. The Guardian's counsel, Geoffrey Robertson QC, told Mr Justice Moreland that Mr Hamilton "had given an undertaking to the deputy prime minister on the basis of which it was regarded by the Prime Minister as appropriate for him to stay in office."

Downing Street yesterday refused to release the minute for publication. When Mr Hamilton emerged from court with his wife Christine, reporters asked him whether he had told the truth to Mr Heseltine. He refused to answer.

When asked: "Did you lie to the deputy prime minister?" he said: "I have nothing to say on that."

Lord Nolan, who conducted the original "sleaze" inquiry which called for a tightening of MPs' standards following the Guardian's investigations, said: "The continuing accusations and counter-accusations are damaging the reputation of Parliament."

Mohamed Al Fayed, the owner of Harrods, who was due to testify about payments he made to MPs, said he was planning to send his own dossier to Sir Gordon.

Mr Hamilton told GMR

## Blair spells out his 'Age of Achievement' for Britain

Michael White Political Editor

**T**ONY BLAIR yesterday delivered an evangelical appeal to the Labour Party and the country to give him a 1,000-day opportunity — from election day to the Millennium — in which to start creating a new "Age of Achievement" for Britain.

The fervour of the Labour leader's commitment to a radical reform programme — complete with 10 vows, a clutch of policy initiatives and the Euro '96 slogan "Labour's Coming Home" — won over even leftwing critics in Blackpool's Winter Gardens last night.

possession of handguns — whatever Lord Cullen's Dunblane report proposes. One symbolic pledge promised to fight for completion of the European Union's single market by mid-1998. Another promised expansion of Mr Blair's idea last year for getting all schools and colleges on the information superhighway — on which Labour is talking to BT.

The startling plea for national consensus — "We're on the same side, we're in the same team" — reached its peak when Mr Blair invoked defectors from the Tory camp. "I write back and say welcome... I don't care where you're coming from. It's where your country's going that matters," he insisted.

## I vow to thee... Blair's 10 promises to conference

- I vow we will have increased the proportion of our national income we spend on education
- I vow we will have reduced the proportion we spend on the welfare bills of social failure
- I vow we will have reduced the spending on NHS bureaucracy and increased it on patient care
- I vow we will have cut the number of long-term unemployed and cut by over a half the number of young people unemployed
- I vow we will halve the time it takes young offenders to get to court
- I vow we will keep Government borrowing and inflation within our targets
- I vow the promises we make on tax, we will keep
- I vow class sizes will be down in primary schools, and standards up
- I vow that with the consent of the people we will have devolved power to Scotland, Wales and the regions of England
- I vow we will build a new relationship in Europe

New Labour had caught the national mood, Mr Blair strove to outdo John Major's conference speeches in evocation of patriotic images even as he hammered away at his central theme: that words such as freedom, aspiration and ambition had really been Labour words all along.

With the election expected on May 1, 1997 — 1,000 days before the new Millennium, "1,000 days to prepare for 1,000 years" Mr Blair pointed out — his audience was never going to be other than enthusiastic. At one point he said: "I will not make pledges on money until I know they can be kept." But the Labour leader managed to balance tough passages on taxes and public spending — supervised by his "Iron Chancellor" — as well as a studied "fairness not favours" nod to the unions with sufficient idealism to inspire his rank and file.

In a significant gesture to traditionalist feelings — "old members who stuck with it through thick and thin" — he argued that Labour belonged to a movement wider than a movement of socialism or social democracy. "It stands in a tradition whose flame was alive in human hearts long before the Labour Party was thought of, a tradition far above ideology, but not beyond ideal."

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**The Guardian**

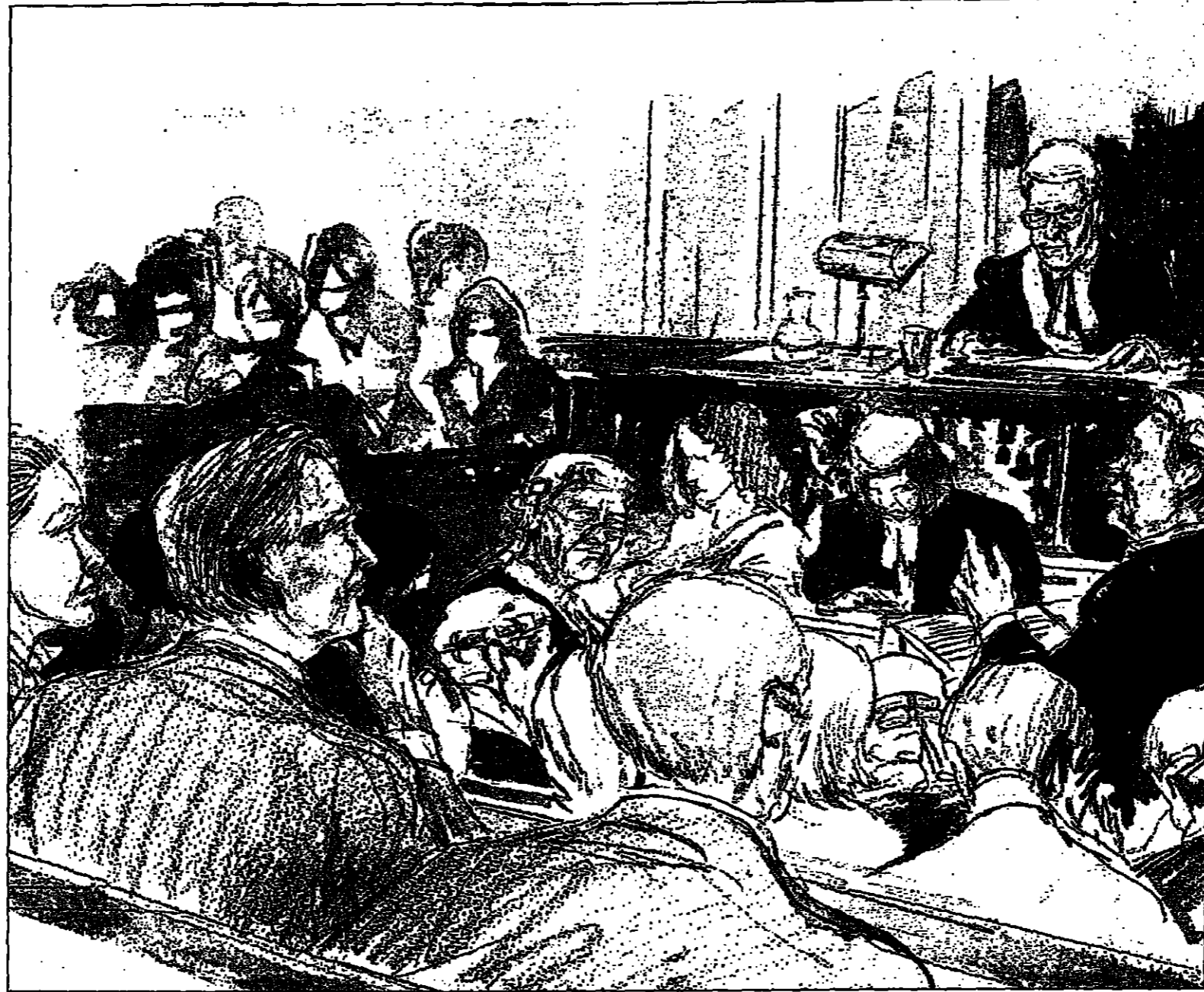


HAMILTON'S TANGLED WEB

Judge says case raised matters of constitutional interest

Judge rules that public interest demands the Crown should disclose as many documents as the law allows

Final act played out at a cost



DRAWING: SIÂN FRANCIS

Owen Bowcott

THE action against the Guardian by Neil Hamilton was formally wound up in the High Court yesterday...

He insisted that "it would not be in the public interest that a responsible newspaper publishing articles it believes to be accurate about a matter of constitutional national importance...

Court 14 as his counsel, Richard Ferguson QC, applied for "leave to subpoena" the libel case. The political lobbyist Ian Greer, also party to the action, was not present.

When the libel action was started, Mr Robertson said, Mr Hamilton was still a Trade and Industry minister. Other sections of documents prepared by civil servants or lawyers had been blacked out for fear that more MPs might be named in the proceedings.

On the basis of which he was regarded by the Prime Minister as appropriate for him to stay in office. "When the libel action was started, Mr Robertson said, Mr Hamilton was still a Trade and Industry minister. Other sections of documents prepared by civil servants or lawyers had been blacked out for fear that more MPs might be named in the proceedings.

small proportion of the sum of the cost should be paid by the defendants". He ordered the Guardian to contribute £20,000. "And that is now the end of the action," Judge Moreland concluded.

Outside court, asked whether he had lied to Mr Heseltine about receiving money from Ian Greer, Mr Hamilton replied: "I have nothing to say on that."

'Career hanging over an abyss'

THE PAPERS

THE TIMES

On Thursday The Guardian won an order forcing the disclosure of documents, including a detailed minute of a telephone conversation shortly before Mr Hamilton was forced to resign from the Government...

received the transcript of a telephone conversation between the MP and Michael Heseltine. In the course of the call, the Deputy Prime Minister demanded to know if Mr Hamilton had ever received money from Mr Greer. Mr Hamilton said he had not. But sources close to the case say this was "at variance" with a statement made by Mr Greer.

While the Guardian is undoubtedly out of pocket, the climbdown is an unhappy

THE INDEPENDENT

contrast to Mr Hamilton's vow to expose "journalistic corruption and fantasy". Mr Rusbridger said that the only possible explanation for Mr Hamilton and Mr Greer "throwing in the towel" at the door of the court was that the evidence the newspaper had compiled to defend the case would have revealed a pattern of parliamentary sleaze more far-reaching than we had ever imagined.

By world standards, and even by the standards of Western democracies, Britain is not a seriously corrupt society. The Hamilton case, however, suggested more serious behaviour by a member albeit a junior one, of the present Government. Having dropped his libel case against the Guardian, Mr Hamilton's political career is left hanging over an abyss, and if he is allowed by his party to rest in peace, he should not be. Mr Major would be very foolish indeed if he makes any reference to morality in his party conference speech next week.

Law Lord's 'favour' that backfired on MP

LIBEL LAWS

Clare Dyer Legal Correspondent

THE amendment to the Defamation Bill which allowed Neil Hamilton to waive parliamentary privilege and sue the Guardian for libel was put down by a Law Lord, Lord Hoffman, after he was soundly out by the Lord Chancellor, Lord Mackay, a government minister.

The amendment was drafted by the Government's parliamentary counsel, and there was an unofficial whip

to persuade Tory peers to turn up and vote for it last May. Lord Hoffman had been responsible for a key measure in the bill, introducing a quick procedure clause for small libel cases. But under the doctrine of separation of powers, at the heart of Britain's unwritten constitution, Law Lords and other judges are supposed to stay aloof and independent from party political issues.

Opposition and independent peers said that having it put down by a senior judge may have given extra credibility to the amendment, which critics have described as "unconstitutional".

Lord Hoffman said yesterday that he tabled the amendment after speaking to Lord Mackay, though to say he did

it at the Lord Chancellor's "request" would be putting it too strongly. "It was as a result of a conversation with the Lord Chancellor. The Lord Chancellor felt he wanted the matter debated," he said. However, when Lord Hoffman came to speak to his amendment, he told the House he was "not an advocate" for it, and outlined some drawbacks as well. When the time came to vote, he abstained.

He said yesterday that he had originally intended to advocate the amendment and let those opposing it speak against it. But he changed his mind, and also refrained from voting for it because "the very large number of people who turned up made it look as if some sort of whip-like activity had gone on. It looked like it was becoming politicised."

"Because I saw all these people, including Mrs Thatcher, I thought this is now becoming a political issue. He said he later heard rumours that there had been an unofficial whip. The amendment was passed by 119 votes to 57.

The amendment was attacked in the debate by the former Law Lord, Lord Simon of Glaisdale, who said: "The amendment seeks to tamper with the Bill of Rights." He said there were "grave difficulties" with the amendment, which would allow an MP to waive parliamentary privilege in his own case, whereas all the authorities stated that the privilege belonged to the

House as a whole or to Parliament. Lord Lester, a Liberal Democrat peer and human rights QC, said in the debate: "The amendment is flawed and would infringe fundamental principles of the constitution."

He argued that parliamentary privilege was "the culmination of a long struggle for parliamentary supremacy" and "should not be permitted to be undermined to meet the personal and private needs of particular individuals."

Lord Hoffman said of the withdrawal of Neil Hamilton's libel action against the Guardian: "It looks as if we didn't do the guy a favour. I thought at the time and I said that if a chap wants to sue he should be able to sue."

Case tests bite of Parliament's new watchdog



SIR GORDON DOWNEY

David Hencke Westminster Correspondent

THE Neil Hamilton "cash for questions" affair will provide the toughest test of whether Parliament is any better at investigating allegations of corruption since John Major accepted Lord Nolan's report on sleaze last year.

two predecessors — the Members' Interests Committee and the Privileges Committee — after Lord Nolan recommended a tougher regime to police MPs, including the appointment of the first Parliamentary Commissioner for Standards.

The evidence in the Hamilton case will go to Sir Gordon Downey, the 68-year-old new commissioner described by colleagues as "a good chap and a perfect mandarin". Sir Gordon — paid £72,000 for a four-day week — has no powers to call for people and papers but he can initiate inquiries after receiving complaints from other MPs and members of the public. His main job is to oversee the register of members' interests; draw up the rules for MPs declaring them; and give confidential advice to individual MPs on the details of their disclosure.

For most of last year he was involved in drawing up the new register, the first in

which MPs had to declare income bands from their consultancies and directorships directly related to parliamentary activities.

He considered a handful of complaints against MPs, including Jonathan Aitken, the former Chief Secretary to the Treasury, Patrick Nicholson, the Conservative MP for Teignbridge, and Roy Thomson, the Conservative MP for Epsom and Ewell.

Sir Gordon said yesterday that he intended to review all the evidence in the Hamilton case and prepare a report for the committee.

"It will then be up to the committee to decide what they want to do with it. They could either accept it, reject it, or decide to do their own inquiry. While Parliament made it clear that I am expected to conduct the investigations into complaints about MPs' conduct, the committee

can virtually do what it likes," he said yesterday. The Hamilton case already promises to be the most difficult for the 11-member committee with its built in Conservative majority. It is chaired by its predecessor, the Privileges Committee, by Tony Newton, a Cabinet minister and Leader of the House of Commons.

It can be attended by Sir Nicholas Lyell, the Attorney General, and Sir Derek Spencer, the Solicitor General, who can speak but not vote. Other members are Ann Taylor, Labour's shadow Leader of the House, and Tory grandees like Sir Geoffrey Johnson-Smith, Dame Jill Knight and former minister Sir David Mitchell.

Others on the committee are rising rightwing Tory Ian Duncan-Smith, the MP for Chingford, old Labour stalwarts like Doug Hoyle, chairman of the party, and the irrepressible Dale Campbell Savours, Labour MP for Workington.

Twelve questions that must be asked

UNANSWERED QUESTIONS

The questions John Major should put to Neil Hamilton:

- 1. Given that your parliamentary salary in 1990 was £26,701 (plus the secretarial allowance to your wife and your £10,000 out-of-London allowance), how did you meet the mortgage payments on your £400,000 house in Cheshire, while also maintaining a flat in London?
2. What meetings did you have with health ministers regarding Greer's client, US Tobacco? What disclosures did you make to them about your interest in the subject?
3. What were your connections with Plateau Mining after you became a minister? Why did you state on the register of members' interests that you resigned in July 1990 on becoming a government whip rather than on September 30, which is the true date of your resignation? Why did you, as a minister, attend their AGM after it was clear the company was in a parlous state?
4. Which of the letters that you signed pleading Mr Al Fayed's case to ministers were drafted by you and which were drafted by Greer and/or Al Fayed's lawyers?
5. Why was your parliamentary notepaper made copiously available in the offices of Ian Greer Associates?
6. Why did you act in Parliament on behalf of Mohammed Al Fayed after you knew in January 1988 that the DTI inspectors' report would be adverse to him and after you knew (by virtue of the publication of that report by the Observer on March 30 1988) that it was in fact extremely adverse?
7. Have you declared all the payments you received from Greer and his clients, including payments in kind, on the register of members' interests? If not, why not? Have you declared all such payments to the Inland Revenue?
8. What payment did you receive from Strategy Network International? Why did you not disclose it on the Register of Members' Interests?
9. When you met ministers on behalf of Mr Al Fayed, what did you tell them of your special interest in his affairs?
10. Reading your bill for your week's holiday at the Ritz in Paris, it appears that you and your wife ordered food and drink at its restaurant costing £250 (in 1987 money) every night of your stay. Did you not think of dining out at least one night at a bistro? If so, it also appears that on most mornings you ordered the champagne breakfast, and your mini-bar indicates regular consumption of expensive alcohol. Did you ever write a letter of thanks to Mr Al Fayed for this munificent hospitality? Or did you feel that he owed it to you?
11. How many £185 Harrods hampers did you receive free of charge over the years?
12. You and your wife had summer holidays courtesy of Mr Al Fayed at the Ritz in 1987 and at his Scottish castle, Halaogown, in 1989. In the summer of 1988 you holidayed in New Orleans and Aspen. Who paid for that?

THE JUBILEE ON THREE.

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Twelve questions that must be asked

ANSWERED QUESTIONS

QUESTIONS John Major put to Neil Hamilton

QUESTIONS What did you mean by your interest in the...

QUESTIONS It was your choice with Michael...

QUESTIONS Why did you become a minister...

QUESTIONS What was your role in the...

QUESTIONS Why did you resign from the...

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GREER'S TANGLED WEB

How campaign cash was channelled to Tory candidates

Ian Greer passed £29,000 to 21 Conservative candidates at the time of the general election in May 1987...

Among those benefitting were Michael Portillo, now Defence Secretary; Gerry Malone, Health Minister; and Sir Michael Hirst, chairman of the Scottish Conservatives...

There is no suggestion any of the candidates acted illegally.



ROBERT ATKINS, aged 50, Conservative MP for South Ribbleside. Before the 1987 election was parliamentary private secretary to the Employment Secretary...



SIR ANDREW BOWDEN, aged 66, Conservative MP for Brighton Kempdown. Was a personnel consultant and has been joint chairman of the all-party group for pensioners...



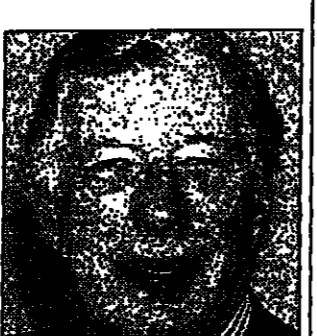
GERRY BOWDEN, aged 61, was Conservative MP for Dulwich from 1983 to 1992. A barrister, chartered surveyor and university lecturer...



BARONESS CHALKER of Wallasey, aged 54, was the Conservative MP for Wallasey until 1992. She started her ministerial career in 1979 at Health...



JOSEPH DEVA, aged 48, Conservative MP for Brentford. Stood as the Tory candidate in Hammersmith in 1987...



SIR ANTHONY DURANT, aged 68, the Conservative MP for Reading West since 1974. At the time of the 1987 general election he had been a long-serving government whip...

Conservative and Unionist Central Office

22 South Square Westchambers SW1P 3HR Telephone 071-222 9000

Memorandum from: Paul Judge To: Chairman Date: 12 June 1995

IAN GREER

Ian Greer and Neil Hamilton are jointly involved in libel proceedings against the Guardian in relation to payments made by Mohamed Fayed to Ian Greer in May 1987.

You will remember that we received a letter (attached) dated 15th May 1985 from Lovell White Durranz, acting for the Guardian, asking us whether we had received any of the money...

I have been in touch with Ian Greer over the last couple of weeks and he came to see me this morning. He has now established that the £18,000 given to him by the Fayed was not given to CCO but to the Fighting Funds of individual MPs...

Despite our not being involved directly, this issue clearly does have the potential to embarrass the Party. I obtained from Ian Greer this morning his list of the twenty-one Conservative MPs to whom the money (£18,000 from the Fayed and £11,000 from Dave Allen of DHL) was given...

The list contains a number of prominent names including Michael Portillo, Gerry Malone and Michael Hirst. It is clear that the Guardian could generate considerable "sleaze" by portraying these payments to the fighting funds candidates as being designed to buy influence when they were re-elected.

Please let me know if you require any further information.

Paul J.

P R Judge

Attachments

The letter from Sir Paul Judge expressing concern about payments by Ian Greer towards MPs' election fighting funds

Lobbyist paid money into fighting funds of 21 Tories

David Hencke

TWENTY-ONE Conservative MPs - including Michael Portillo and Norman Tebbit - had between £500 and £5,000 paid secretly into their 1987 general election campaign by Ian Greer, the parliamentary lobbyist in the "cash for questions" case.



MICHAEL PORTILLO, 43, had been Conservative MP for Enfield Southgate for only four years at the time of the 1987 general election. Not yet a rising star, he had served as a special adviser to the Trade Secretary in 1983 and to the Chancellor in 1983-84...

A confidential Conservative Central Office memorandum, voluntarily passed to the Guardian's lawyers, shows the party was concerned that if the information was disclosed during the libel trial it could cause further embarrassment to the Government over "sleaze".

The 1986 memo to Jeremy Hanley, then chairman, from Sir Paul Judge, then director-general, says: "The list contains a number of prominent names including Michael Portillo (Defence Secretary), Gerry Malone (Health Minister) and Sir Michael Hirst (Scottish Conservative chairman). It is clear that the Guardian could generate considerable 'sleaze' by portraying these payments to the fighting funds candidates as...

The donations, from Mr Greer to the fighting funds of the MPs' local constituency parties, were legal and did not have to be declared on the register of members' interests.

There is no suggestion that the money was for any services rendered. Sir Michael Hirst, who confirmed a £500 payment from Ian Greer Associates, said: "There was nothing whatsoever to indicate that Mr Greer's donation had come from a third party. During my time in Parliament I performed no services for Mr Greer and his company and assumed accordingly that his cheque was a gesture of support by him to the Conservative Party campaign in a marginal seat."

David Mellor, the former Heritage Secretary, who also received £500, said: "When Mr Greer contacted me and said the money was supposed to have come from Mr Al Fayed and would be revealed in the trial I was furious. I contacted the Guardian myself to tell them that his donation had been sent from his private address in Putney to my constituency association and I had never had any personal dealings with Ian Greer as an MP."

Gerry Malone, the Health Minister, received a £1,000 donation to his constituency. His office said: "It is unlikely that he will be able to recollect or that he even acknowledged it."

Michael Portillo, who received a £500 donation, did not want to comment, nor did Lord Tebbit, who was party chairman in 1987 and received £1,000. Lady Chalker, the Overseas Development Minister, also confirmed a payment from Ian Greer which she believed had been spent on computer equipment for her constituency association.



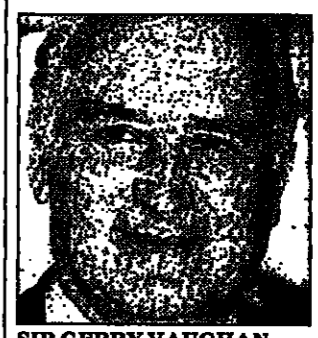
BARON TEBBIT of Chingford, aged 65. Was Conservative Party Chairman and Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster between 1985 and 1987. He had been in the Cabinet since 1981 as First Employment Secretary and then Trade and Industry Secretary (1983-1985). Retired from the Commons in 1992.



SIR DAVID TRIPPIER, aged 50, was the Minister for Small Businesses in 1987. He was junior minister at the Department of Trade and Industry between 1983 and 1985 before moving to the Department of Employment. After the 1987 election became an environment minister, before being made deputy chairman of the Conservative Party. Conservative MP for Rossendale and Darwen until defeat in 1992. Former director of a financial planning company.



SIR NEIL THORNE, aged 63, was Conservative MP for Ilford South until 1992. A chartered surveyor and Lloyds underwriter, he was a member of the Commons Select Committee on Defence between 1983 and 1992. A specialist in transport, housing and defence, and an acknowledged authority on Nepal. Knighted 1992.



SIR GERRY VAUGHAN, aged 73, Conservative MP for Reading East. Minister for Consumer Affairs at the Department of Trade and Industry, 1982-85. Was also a minister of health. Retiring at the coming general election. A medical consultant, he has had a long political interest in health matters. Was a member of Lloyds.



SIR MALCOLM THORNTON, aged 57, a River Mersey pilot who became Conservative MP for Crosby, ousting Shirley Williams, in 1983. Before the 1987 election he worked as Patrick Jenkin's parliamentary private secretary when he was Secretary of State for Trade and Industry and Environment Secretary. Was parliamentary consultant to Nalco, the local government union, and the Building Employers Confederation. Knighted 1992.



KEN WARREN, aged 70, Conservative MP for Hastings and Rye 1983-92. Influential chairman of the key House of Commons Select Committee on Trade and Industry, 1983-92. An aeronautical engineer, management consultant and company director.



SIR MICHAEL HIRST, aged 50, now Chairman of the Scottish Conservative Party. Was the Conservative MP for Strathkelvin and Bearsden from 1963. Lost his seat in the 1987 election when he was vice-chairman of the Scottish Conservative Party. Was parliamentary private secretary to the Energy Secretary between 1983 and 1987. Knighted in 1992. A company director and business consultant.



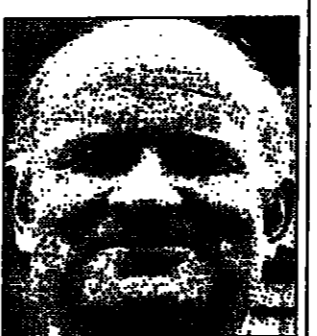
NORMAN LAMONT, aged 54, had been Conservative MP for Kingston-upon-Thames since 1972. He was a Minister of State at the Department of Trade and Industry between 1981 and 1985. He became the Minister for Defence Procurement (1985-1986) and then Financial Secretary to the Treasury in 1986. After the 1987 general election he became Chancellor of the Exchequer. Resigned from the Cabinet in 1993.



GERRY MALONE, aged 46, was Conservative MP for Aberdeen South between 1983 and 1987, and parliamentary private secretary to the Secretary of State for Trade between 1985 and 1986 before becoming an assistant whip. After losing his seat he edited the Sunday Times Scotland before getting back in as MP for Winchester in 1992. Became deputy chairman of the Conservative Party and is now Health Minister.



BARON MOORE of Lower Marsh, aged 58. The donation to his Croydon Central Conservative Association came at a time when he was a firm Thatcher favourite and his star was rising fast. John Moore had joined the Cabinet in 1986 as Transport Secretary, and after the 1987 general election became Social Services Secretary. He left the Cabinet in 1989 and the Commons in 1992 when he was created a life peer.



DAVID SHAW, aged 45, became the Conservative MP for Dover in 1987. A chartered accountant who founded Sabrelance Ltd which helps small businesses. He was also a director of Corporate and Public Affairs Strategy Ltd.

Advertisement for General Accident Direct insurance. Includes text: 'Down goes the cost of your motor and home contents insurance with our no claims discount. Call now for details. YOUR MOTOR AND HOME CONTENTS LOWER INSURANCE WITH OUR NO CLAIMS DISCOUNT. MOTOR INSURANCE BUILDINGS & CONTENTS 0800 121 000 0800 121 004. MORTGAGE PAYMENT PROTECTION 0800 121 008 - TRAVEL 0800 121 007. \*Written details on request. General Accident Direct, FREEPOST, Hamilton ML3 1BR. http://www.ga.co.uk/gadirect'

Sketch New Labour, Old Testament



Simon Hoggart

IT WASN'T the fault of the chairwoman, Diana Jevon, that she introduced the leader as Tony Blair. A natural slip of the tongue.

And Blair was neither blurry or bland. He was evangelical. He invoked the names of "the ancient prophets of the Old Testament who first pleaded the cause of the marginal, the powerless, the disenfranchised."

challenges, new ideas", "the future, not the past". "New Labour, new members", "the age of achievement, at home and abroad."

The climax came with his salute to the England football team's performance in Euro '96 (another sign that New Labour has written Scotland off).

There was a curious passage where he seemed close to tears, remembering the day his father almost died of a stroke. It seemed to have no political purpose, though it was more dramatic than John Major's plea to his father last year - all he remembered was that he made garden gnomes.

'We are back as the people's party, and that's why the people are coming back to us. Labour has come home to you'



Robin Cook... expressed new reservations about joining the first wave of countries in a single currency

Blair's promise is new age

Ewen MacAskill, Chief Political Correspondent

TONY Blair set out yesterday a programme for a "great, radical, reforming" Labour government that he promised would bring a "new age of achievement."

nology in education, creating "a national grid for learning". The closest he came to a gimmick was when, after more than two years of saying he would not make promises for fear of disappointing people, he made 10 vows, from reducing the proportion spent on welfare bills through to halving the time it takes young offenders to get to court.

Labour's key pledges

- EDUCATION: Summer schools for poor readers; phase out £100 million assisted places scheme and use money to cut primary class sizes to below 30 for 5-7 year-olds; no return to 11-plus; further drive to connect schools and colleges to information superhighway at no cost.
EUROPE: Complete integration of 1992 single market blueprint by mid-1998, opening up telecommunications, energy and financial services markets to British firms
EMPLOYMENT: Welfare-to-work programme for 250,000 young people, funded by windfall tax
CRIME: Ban on private ownership and possession of handguns
CONSTITUTION: Devolution for Wales, Scotland and London; directly-elected authority for London; abolition of hereditary votes in Lords
LOYALTY: Divert 20 per cent of funds for good causes to education, environment and public health improvements
SLEAZE: Ask Nolan committee to investigate political funding and legislate to identify party political donations

changed the law to let Mr Hamilton put his case. "We will change the law to make the Tories clean up their act. To coin a phrase, we will be tough on sleaze and tough on the causes of sleaze."

He kept his options open on a single European currency but was positive about the single market. He said Britain would have the pres-

STAR PERFORMER STEALS THE SHOW. Gateway 2000 advertisement featuring a computer monitor and keyboard. Includes Intel Inside Pentium logo and Gateway 2000 logo. Text describes the P5-120 multimedia system and lists specifications like 120MHz Pentium Processor, 16MB SDRAM, 250KB Pipeline Burst Cache, 3.5" Diskette Drive, Toshiba Eight-Speed CD-ROM, Western Digital 2GB EIDE Hard Drive, Creative Labs Video Sound Card and Aher Lansing ACS-41 Spicaz.

Short backs quota system

Women Rebecca Smithers Political Correspondent

LABOUR yesterday signalled its determination to find new ways of boosting the representation of women in politics, in what the shadow overseas development minister, Clare Short, described as "the biggest modernisation" programme still facing the party.

'Jokey' promiscuity pledge backfires on spokeswoman

ALLEGATIONS that New Labour is dull and respectable will be that much harder to make now that Janet Anderson has promised that "under Labour women will become more promiscuous", writes Michael White.

LABOUR PARTY CONFERENCE Today's briefing Education

Labour Party Conference briefing on Education. Includes sections on 'The background', 'Education facts', 'Opting out', 'The arguments', and 'Other topics today'. Features a line graph showing the number of selective grammar schools in England from 1960 to 1995, and a portrait of Gordon Brown.

Cook sets... into obsta... any-picking spee... backpool

07/11/2015

LABOUR IN BLACKPOOL 5



Cherie Blair adding congratulations after her husband's speech PHOTOGRAPH: FIONA HANSON

'The true mission of the Labour Party, new and old, is not to hold people back but to help them get on. All the people. Each generation doing better than the last'

of achievement

gency in the first half of 1998. 'One of our key priorities in that presidency will be the completion of the single market. Today, I set a deadline: June 1998, the end of the British presidency, for the completion of the single market. And I will begin discussions with other European leaders now so that we can be ready to meet that deadline.'

side. 'We're in the same team.' Turning to his central theme, education, he said: 'Ask me for my three main priorities for government and I tell you: education, education and education.'

modernised for today's world, taking account of children's different abilities. 'I want a state education system in Britain so good, so attractive, that the parents choose to put behind us the educational apartheid of the past, private and state, and I do not believe anything would do more to break down the class divides that have no place in a modern country in the 21st century.'

monopoly of the Conservatives was the traditional family. This formed part of his argument that the real moral question facing Britain was not that posed by John Major two weeks ago on tax but on a world 'where a few winners take all rather than all of us as winners.'

Cook sets new euro obstacle

Europe

Ewen MacAskill, Chief Political Correspondent

THE shadow foreign secretary, Robin Cook, expressed scepticism yesterday about Britain being in the first wave of countries joining the European single currency.

be rushing to be in the first wave. Tony Blair and the shadow chancellor, Gordon Brown, are more open-minded about a single currency. While on balance they favour it, they recognise the huge practical problems.

Brown keeps the utilities guessing

Seamus Milne and Larry Elliott

SENIOR Labour sources last night gave a tough warning to the privatised utilities to call off their concerted propaganda campaign against the party's planned windfall tax, revealing for the first time that it could raise more than £5 billion.

resenting utility employees have echoed the companies' line by publicly voicing fears that the tax could become a 'tax on jobs'.

Cherry-picking speeches is Blair's answer to insomnia

Blackpool 96

NEIL KINNOCK confessed on radio yesterday that when he was party leader he would stay up all the preceding night rewriting his conference speech.

all shadow ministers to submit their draft speeches for vetting. Blair and his speechwriters then coolly cherry-picked the best bits before returning them. David Blunkett, I hear, was particularly plundered, and even Gordon Brown had to go back to the drawing board when Blair hijacked his Euro '96-inspired 'Labour's coming home'.

therefore, The Joke was the work of Roy Hudd. Tuesday I told you of my discovery of New Labour's very own Stage Management office. Yesterday, passing the same door, what do I discover but that the 'Stage Management' notice has disappeared overnight. Now it merely says 'PRIVATE - Staff Only'.

TO PREPARE myself for the rigours of the afternoon I search out a lunchtime meeting. John Mortimer's meeting defending the inalienable human right to go fox-hunting seems tempting but is overcrowded and inaudible. So where better to stock up than at the buffet lunch provided at the fringe gathering on Obesity. Especially as it is addressed by Professor Michael Lean?

WHO SAYS the power of the press is dead? On

A Fresher WAY OF Banking

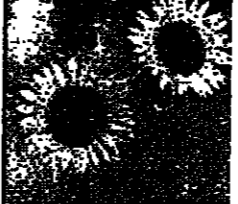
Fed up with your bank charging for basic services such as duplicate statements and stopping cheques? We think you'll find that at Abbey National we have a fresher view of banking.

A COMPARISON OF INTEREST-BEARING CURRENT ACCOUNTS

Table with 3 columns: Bank Name, Duplicate Statement, Stopping a Cheque. Rows include Abbey National, Bank of Scotland, Clydesdale, Royal Bank of Scotland, and TSB.

For example, we believe that these basic services shouldn't cost you anything, which is why we don't charge anything for them. Think how much that would save you a year. It's just one of the features that makes an Abbey National Bank Account so refreshing. What's more, so that the transfer from your old bank runs smoothly, new customers can enjoy an interest free overdraft for four months.

Source: The Research Department Ltd. All financial information is checked for accuracy on a weekly basis.



0800 375 375

Large advertisement for Abbey National overdrafts. Text includes: 'No hidden charges', 'Transfer assistance', '24 hour phone banking', 'No Hidden Charges', 'Overdraft of 11.9% APR', 'Credit Interest Bonus', 'Over 11,000 cash machines'.

News in brief

Turkey condemned on human rights

AMNESTY International singled out Turkey yesterday in a worldwide campaign against human rights abuses, saying Ankara's record in the 1990s had gone from bad to worse. Amnesty's secretary-general, Pierre Sané, told a news conference in Istanbul that Turkey, through the indifference of successive governments, had selected itself for the campaign. "They have done so by signing international human rights standards and proclaiming abroad that human rights are a priority, and then covering up torture, disappearances and political killings," Mr Sané said. "Today we are saying enough is enough."

Europe to fight US trade laws

THE European Union yesterday stepped up its dispute with the United States over legislation that punishes foreign companies dealing with Cuba, Libya and Iran. The 15 EU foreign ministers agreed in Luxembourg to ask the World Trade Organisation (WTO) to overrule the Helms-Burton Act, through which the US seeks to penalise foreign companies investing in Cuba. The EU will also contest the D'Amato Act, under which the US can impose sanctions on foreign companies investing in the energy sectors of Iran and Libya. Although the EU request to launch a formal complaint at the WTO could come as early as October 16, the White House can still delay a hearing until after the presidential elections. "I hope we can settle this amicably, but the contentious phase has started as of now," the French foreign minister, Hervé de Charette, said yesterday. — AP, Luxembourg.

Parents of 'spy' seek mercy

THE parents of a Russian diplomat alleged to have spied for Britain yesterday appealed for compassion for their son. Alexei and Olga Obukhov called for experts to assess the sanity of their son Platon, aged 28, who is in prison awaiting trial on espionage charges — and disclosed details of mental problems they say he developed 10 years ago. Alexei Obukhov, a former Soviet deputy foreign minister and a top disarmament negotiator, said the British intelligence agency MI6 had been wrong to recruit his son. He said in comments published by the Nezavisimaya Gazeta daily newspaper: "We appeal to the leaders of the SIS [Britain's Special Intelligence Service] and the FSB [Russia's Federal Security Service] to meet at a negotiating table and evaluate, calmly and without noisy exaggeration... the case of Platon Obukhov."

S African arms ban extended

SOUTH AFRICA'S government yesterday extended a ban on the carrying of weapons at public meetings from volatile areas to the entire country. "We need to move away from the violence-ridden history of the past towards a more stable and law-governed society," Sydney Mufamadi, the safety and security minister, said in a statement. Weapons, particularly traditional spears, machetes and axes, have commonly been carried in protest marches, and have often been used in spontaneous clashes. A ban has been in place since March in KwaZulu-Natal, which is plagued by violence between followers of the Inkatha Freedom Party and the African National Congress. — Reuters, Cape Town.

Emeralds are forever



THE world's largest-known emerald cluster worth about \$33 million has been extracted from what its owner thought was merely a large black rock found in Madagascar. Gemmologists in Bangkok (above) removed a layer of black mica before finding 127 green emeralds weighing 1,671 lbs, or 380,000 carats. — Reuters, Bangkok.

Clean-up plan for Yangtze

CHINA plans to close down all paper mills on the upper reaches of the Yangtze river as part of a comprehensive effort to clean up the waterway, the Xinhua news agency reported yesterday. The closures would aim to minimise the ecological effects of the gargantuan Three Gorges dam project — the world's largest hydro-electric power plant, due to be completed in 2005. Xinhua said Beijing had earmarked about 30 million yuan (\$7.2 million) for an environmental monitoring network. Authorities would also try to curtail industrial pollution. The United States Export-Import Bank rejected a request to help fund the \$20 billion project, citing environmental concerns. Critics say it could have a devastating impact. — Reuters, Beijing.

Japanese voters undecided

THREE weeks before Japan holds general elections, floating voters outnumber those backing the most popular party, a poll showed yesterday. The Asahi Shimbun newspaper poll of 2,000 voters revealed that 31 per cent said they favoured no party in the October 20 elections, against 28 per cent expressing support for the Liberal Democratic Party led by the prime minister, Ryutaro Hashimoto. The Democratic Party, a reformist bloc formed at the weekend to attract unaffiliated voters, outpolls the larger main opposition party, Shinshinto (New Frontier Party). — Reuters, Tokyo.

Can we now expect to see Saddam Hussein advertising dogfood, or General Ratko Mladic explaining the advantages of double glazing? Francis Wheen

G2 page 5

Jonathan Steele in Kabul finds the guerrillas anxious to soften the first impact of their brutal victory Taliban woos world opinion

THE rope is still there, trailing limply from a traffic post. Bloodstains disfigure the kerbstones beneath it. But the body of Mohammed Najibullah, Afghanistan's former president, has been cut down, handed over to the leaders of his tribe, and buried. As if to wipe away a little more of the shock of his execution, which was widely condemned around the world, the victorious Taliban movement sought yesterday to present a more moderate face. "We won't export fundamentalism. We won't support terrorism and we want good relations with all countries in the world," Sher Mohammad Stanakzai told a press conference. Described as deputy foreign minister in a government which has yet to be named,

Mr Stanakzai is a 37-year-old graduate of Kabul University who became a field commander in the resistance to Soviet occupation in the 1980s. With electricity supplies restored and the first commercial flight arriving yesterday at the reopened international airport, he promised foreign relief agencies that they were welcome to stay, and said the city was back to normal. He also appeared to soften Taliban's harsh line on women, which has sent tremors of worry through Kabul, particularly among the estimated 30,000 war widows who are their families' only breadwinners. At the weekend they were told they had to stay at home. But Mr Stanakzai said: "We're drawing up regulations under which women will be able to work and girls will go to school." He did not say when the rules would be ready. He extended an olive branch to General Abdul Rashid Dostam, the army commander in northern Afghanistan who supported the previous government and has backed president, who lived under United Nations protection in a safe house in Kabul until last week. Taliban's six-man council was in the southern city of Kandahar at the time, he said. "But he justified the killing on the grounds that Najibullah had 'hanged many of our people'."

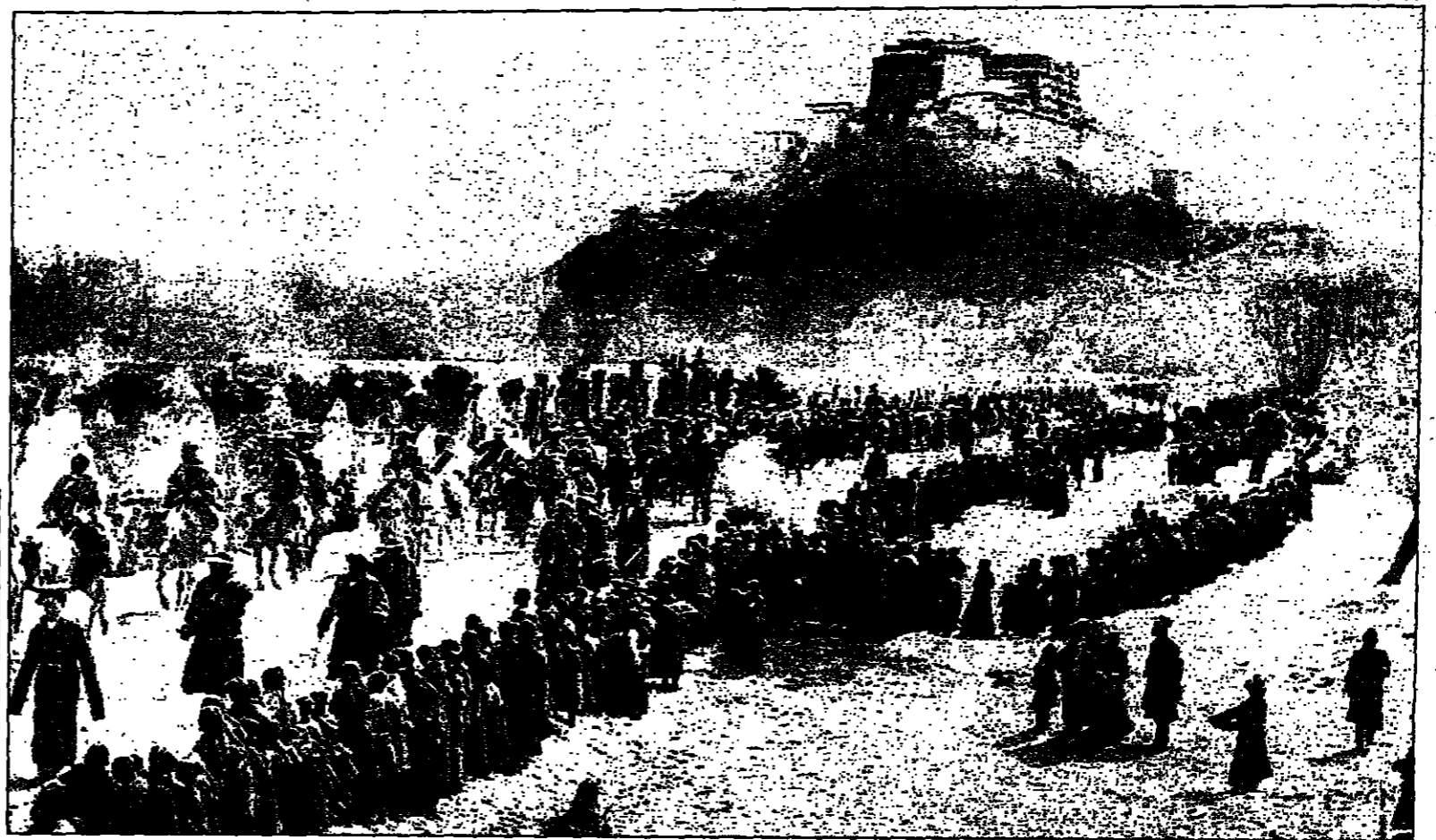
Massood's men repulsed repeated Soviet attempts to capture the long valley, where green patches surrounding villages are separated by narrow rocky defiles. Aides at Cmdr. Massood's headquarters, whose location they asked not to be disclosed, said they were talking to Gen Dostam about an alliance against Taliban. They declined to say how far the talks had gone or give any further details. They said their retreat from Kabul had been rapid because former allies had turned against Cmdr. Massood and had been forced to fight their way north. Cmdr. Massood's men had been prepared to make a stand at Charikar, about 60 miles north of Kabul, but were attacked from behind before the Taliban forces arrived, the aides said.

Beijing's liberal propaganda chief invites Tibet's leader to 'return to the motherland'

China throws new line to Dalai Lama

John Gittings

CHINA has sent an unusually positive signal to the Dalai Lama, despite growing tension in Tibet, through an interview given by one of Beijing's more liberal leaders. Li Ruihuan, the propaganda chief, has drawn a careful distinction between the Tibetan religious leader and the "clique" around him, suggesting that an agreement could still be reached with the Dalai personally. Beijing's proposals have been blocked by the "Dalai side". Mr Li says, but the Dalai himself would be welcome "to return to the motherland so that we can do something beneficial for the people of Tibet". His distinction is sharply at odds with the rest of Beijing's pronouncements on Tibet, which have reached new heights of invective against the Dalai in person. Last week an official Chinese news commentary described him as "the chief of the splittist [separatist] clique", and a "conspirator" who was "begging foreigners for support". Mr Li, by contrast, in an interview on September 18 while visiting Switzerland, seemed to judge the Dalai's motives or behaviour. In a key passage he said: "The Dalai clique's political nature has been decided by what it has done in history, but as for the Dalai himself, we have always... given him a way out". The interview in Bern was almost entirely concerned with Tibet and was given unusual prominence in the official People's Daily. It coincided with a remarkably mild speech by the Dalai Lama at the National Press Club in Sydney on the same day. He suggested that "a change for the better" was coming in Tibet and that a post-Deng Xiaoping leadership would be more amenable to talks without preconditions.



In grand procession, a Dalai Lama leaves the Potala Palace, winter home of Tibet's semi-divine rulers for four centuries. To placate troublesome monks and boost tourism — rather than to pave the way for the exiled Dalai Lama's return — Beijing has spent \$4.25 million restoring the crumbling structure in the capital Lhasa, and is maintaining its upkeep



Tibetan women use the traditional technique of hammering water into newly laid mortar on the roof of the Potala Palace. It is the first time since the 17th century that the palace, a labyrinth of uncounted thousands of rooms, has been overhauled, writes Jane Macartney in Lhasa. According to Qiong Da, deputy director of its management committee, it is the most expensive renovation Beijing has ever undertaken. Much of the sacred Red Palace and the surrounding secular White Palace was built by the fifth Dalai Lama, who moved there in about 1650, around the surviving rooms of a fort built by a seventh-century king. The stone and earth structure was eroded and insects had eaten away most of its pillars and almost all of its wooden window frames. One of the greatest challenges, Mr Qiong said, was to recreate the ochre mortar used for the floors and flat roofs. "We achieved about 70 per cent of the quality of the original." — Reuters.

His tone was remarkable in view of the increased severity of Chinese repression in Tibet. Tibetan monks are being forced to take what amounts to a loyalty test, and threatened with arrest or expulsion from their monasteries if they do not denounce the Dalai. Chinese army units are being deployed around Lhasa in an apparent show of strength. China has also been exploiting the issue of its sovereignty over Tibet in its current wave of patriotic propaganda. Yesterday the People's Daily celebrated China's National Day with a colour picture of its front page of the Tibetan boy chosen by Beijing as the reincarnation of the Panchen Lama, Tibet's second religious leader. The boy is a rival candidate to the one already chosen, according to religious practice, by the Dalai Lama. In his interview, Mr Li repeated the standard Chinese position: that the Dalai must recognise that Tibet is part of China and stop advocating independence before talks can be held. This is pushing at a door already half open. Since 1987 the Dalai has acknowledged that indepen-

dence is not a realistic demand. He asks rather for Tibet to enjoy genuine autonomy and become a non-military zone under Chinese sovereignty. China has made no serious attempt to explore the negotiating possibilities offered by the Dalai's proposal since its policy hardened in the early 1990s. Mr Li's shift of line may also reflect his personal position as one of the more moderate Chinese leaders. He is a member of the elite standing committee of the Communist Party's ruling politburo and chairman of the people's political consultative conference. This body and the national congress are forums for non-party opinion which may, some observers believe, gain ground after Mr Deng dies.

Burmese crackdown tightens noose around Suu Kyi

Nick Canning-Bruce in Bangkok

BARRICADES manned by armed riot police access to Rangoon's University Avenue and the villa of Burma's pro-democracy leader Aung San Suu Kyi. Since the barricades went up on Friday, residents have learnt to keep well clear. The ruling State Law and Order Restoration Council (Slorc) said yesterday that it had detained 558 people since Friday in a security crackdown that may have escalated beyond even the junta's intentions. It claimed yesterday to have released 88 detainees. Slorc officials say 159 of those held were members of Ms Suu Kyi's National League for Democracy (NLD), who were headed to her house for a special party congress. They

found themselves bundled into lorries and trucked out of sight. In Slorc-speak, they were invited to "guesthouses". But another 400 people were picked up on Friday night, most in police sweeps through Rangoon townships "in a bid to prevent crime likely to harm law and peace and tranquillity of the state", as a senior intelligence officer explained yesterday. "Perhaps reaction was a little tougher than they expected or wanted," a diplomat in Rangoon said. Either way, the Slorc has seized the opportunity to deliver another body-blow to the NLD and its leader. It again reveals the character of the "democracy" its generals have in mind for their new constitution — when they get round to formulating it. At about the time the Slorc released Ms Suu Kyi from six years' house arrest in July

last year, it indicated a willingness to consider a dialogue with her on Burma's future. By February, it was stalling talks on the grounds that it was too busy preparing the country for economic lift-off. The message yesterday was more abrupt. "Suu Kyi's actions have gone beyond the limits of an opposition leader," Colonel Kyaw Thein, a senior intelligence officer said. The Slorc is striving to create a democracy, he insisted, adding: "There is no need for any opposition group." The Slorc's actions are geared to pre-empting one. NLD members and supporters function under intense sur-

veillance and routine intimidation. Undeterred by sporadic condemnation from the West, and showing greater tactical know-how, the Slorc has maintained a steady flow of arrests, picking off a number of Ms Suu Kyi's aides. Any NLD attempt to wield its supporters into a more cohesive network invites stronger measures to thwart them. When Ms Suu Kyi and fellow NLD leaders sought to hold a party congress in May, now officials said they were being detained only temporarily, but some received long sentences. When the NLD withdrew from what Ms Suu Kyi dis-

missed as a "sham" convention working on the new constitution, and promised to draft an alternative, the Slorc rustled up a law against any action that could "disturb or create misunderstandings among the public in connection with the convention". In a move against Ms Suu Kyi's regular weekend talks to crowds of several thousand, the Slorc also took powers to ban any organisation that violated laws controlling public gatherings. They chose on Friday to pass over those powers in favour of military action, blocking Ms Suu Kyi's speech for the first time since her release from house arrest. The next few days may provide some clue as to how far the Slorc intends to isolate her. For the moment, NLD leaders still have daily access to her, she is free to leave her compound, at least by car,

and officials say she is free to meet the press. But the noose around her is being drawn tighter, helped by a crescendo of abuse in the official media. Re-detaining Ms Suu Kyi looks likely to remain a last resort, Rangoon-based diplomats believe. Sharp Western criticism of the weekend crackdown may have alerted the junta to the diplomatic price of such a move. It may also be taking note of disenchantment voiced within the Association of South-East Asian Nations (Asean), to which Burma is seeking full membership. Slorc leaders, if they felt themselves under pressure from the opposition, would not allow foreign opinion to stop them throwing Ms Suu Kyi behind bars. But after months of attrition directed at the NLD, there seems less and less of an opposition to apply that pressure.

The junta has seized the opportunity to deliver another body-blow to her group

actions have gone beyond the limits of an opposition leader, Colonel Kyaw Thein, a senior intelligence officer said. The Slorc is striving to create a democracy, he insisted, adding: "There is no need for any opposition group." The Slorc's actions are geared to pre-empting one. NLD members and supporters function under intense sur-

European Union Italy and that it is Belgium and Austria The little m Victor in mo 96

Handwritten text in Arabic script at the bottom center of the page.



Preparing for office
For Tony Blair it can't come too quickly

TONY BLAIR intends to be Britain's next prime minister. Yesterday he sounded like one. The task which faced him when he addressed the Labour conference at Blackpool was both simple and daunting. It was to make his party and the country believe that Labour can get back into government at last. Mr Blair's whole speech was a compelling attempt to fulfil that massive and many-sided mission. It was the most satisfying account of the New Labour project for government that the party leader has yet delivered.

tions, which some had assumed he scorned. Such things may seem obscure to those outside the party, but they are a crucial part of the modernisation project. Yesterday Mr Blair may have discovered that it is possible to transform the Labour Party in a progressive way without needlessly antagonising it. It was Mr Blair's most moralising speech as party leader. He called up the spirits of the Old Testament rather than the more recent secular heroes of the Labour cause. But Mr Blair was on particularly strong ground yesterday, in the light of the Hamilton case, in articulating such a moral theme. In an era in which parties competing for votes are increasingly forced to trim to the centre, the sincerity and moral credibility of the party leader is as important a part of the political battle as the policy agenda. It should have come as no surprise that the most intense applause followed Mr Blair's powerful passage about Dunblane and his pledge to ban privately owned handguns. This highly personalised style is a vital part of modern politics and Mr Blair is now a master of it.



Letters to the Editor

The sword of truth

THE discontinuance of Neil Hamilton's libel case has again placed the morality of our political leaders at the heart of media scrutiny (A liar and a cheat, October 1). We need thoughtful public debate and analysis, not just of individual morality but of the national structures within which it invariably becomes entangled.

DO not expect that your latest revelations will make the slightest difference. I do not expect the matter to be investigated by any office of state. Within two to three weeks and furious activity by Conservative spin-doctors, the whole saga will have been forgotten about.

has not been scared out of the libel courts by the obscene amounts of cash demanded by these corrupt and devious political miscreants. You are assured of my daily 45 pence for a long time to come.

It is time the railways gave women passengers a platform

ROS Coward's comments are timely (Why rail rage is a feminist issue, September 30). Research on the benefits of rural railways, which we have been carrying out for Transport 2000 Trust, shows very clearly the disproportionate dependence of women and young people on rail services in rural areas.

THIS article rings a bell. Our club's local survey found that 90 per cent of frightening incidents never get reported to the police. A problem spot is railway stations. We therefore asked for the station lights not to be turned off 15 minutes before the last train arrived, only to be told: "The staff are booked off duty at 00.30 and will not be expected to stay on" (they haven't heard of time switches). We were also told that it was unclear if the new franchise would finance CCTV at the station taxi rank, where girls were being harassed, but we should "direct our comments to their directors, when known".

The simple bit: Neil Hamilton lied

The difficult bit: what should Parliament do about Ian Greer?

THE SIGHT of Neil Hamilton and Ian Greer tralling round the television studios yesterday mournfully pleading impecuniosity as the cause of their failed libel action was richly instructive. It is always a pleasure to see the true artist at work — and here were two men at the height of their powers, lying for dear life. One appreciated for the first time why it was that wealthy businessmen queued to press used fivers into their palms. But we will, for the moment, leave them to their unquiet fantasies and address the question of what is to be done about them?

accept that they were lied to — and they must make plain what action they will take over it. If they remain silent or take no action or (their usual route of evasion) refer the matter to yet another committee of the House we will know that they are not fundamentally serious about the business of maintaining standards in public life. It is surely inconceivable, at the very least, that Mr Hamilton will be allowed to retain the Conservative whip.

CONGRATULATIONS on your front-page. Your Comment is the most honest

Sperm wars

ONE concept not covered in your article about Mrs B and her dead husband's sperm (Can a widow be a mother?, October 1) is ownership. If frozen sperm is considered to remain the property of its producer, the permission of that owner should be required before it can be used. On his death, his sperm should be treated as any other part of his estate, and ownership should pass to the residuary legatee.



THIS fact that Mr B was unconscious would not be a legal bar to his widow's taking possession of the contents of his pockets or cutting a lock of his hair to keep, so why should it be a bar to her taking his last gift to her — his sperm?

spem for the impregnation of the woman he is marrying. This is the religious and legal object of the procedure and it is quite wrong of the HFEA to block the fertilisation of a widow by her husband's frozen sperm.

Closing down the Cold War

Now it's all over do we still need armies of spycatchers?

THE WORLD in general — and the genre of spy fiction in particular — won't be quite the same after yesterday's release of thousands of coded messages from the Public Record Office showing the extent of Soviet penetration of US and British organisations during and after the second world war. Moscow had over 200 agents in the US and the UK including not only the famous ones like Fuchs, Philby, Maclean and Burgess but also more recently uncovered spies like Dr Ted Hall, a New Yorker who moved to Britain in 1962 whose code name was "Mlad" because he was so young, and the Cambridge scientist, John Little. This may mark the end of an era partly because the few reds still under the beds have become so bedridden it is almost uncharitable to unmask them while others may escape because not all the messages have been decoded. So the search for the Third, the Fourth, the

Fifth and even the Sixth man, which as a national sport outshone even the search for prime numbers (with which it shares cryptography as its methodology) may now be laid to rest. Smiley is no longer needed at the Circus. We still need to be told what it all meant. Secrets were passed to Russia almost as fast as being posted on the Internet (which these days they probably would be). As a result the Soviet Union built look-alike atom bombs two or three years earlier than otherwise. Whether the balance of terror thus created helped preserve peace or not will be debated for years. The Cold War is over but the huge quango-cracy it created — from the CIA downwards — remain, unsure whose bed they should now be looking under. But they protect their size and make it difficult for outsiders to know what they are up to. We need to penetrate their defences. Maybe there is still a job for 007.

A Pinteresque falling-out

IN HIS fascinating article on Harold Pinter's life and art (Enter stage left, October 1), Michael Billington quotes Harold voicing what can only be described as a Pinteresque memory. According to it, we were friends from the age of 12, but I never forgave him because, while we were still schoolboys, he once beat me in a 200-yard race and as a result "we haven't spoken for 50 years". Too good a story to check, but alas not true. We were, indeed, very good friends in the 1940s — a friendship cemented by my having the privilege of playing Malcolm to his Macbeth and Mercutio to his Romeo.

which we were able to bring our fathers together for a transient and unsuccessful tailoring partnership. But the cooling dates from the 1960s and the cause was somewhat more serious than a schoolboy foot race. I am now ashamed to say that I made use of my knowledge of Harold, his intimate friendships and his family's reaction to them to write a review of The Homecoming which I felt cut through the obscurantist interpretations of the bemused critics and exposed it as a straightforward (and extraordinarily powerful) illumination of the tensions and hatreds induced by an inter-faith marriage.

In a word . . .

YOU report Amnesty International's call for an independent judicial inquiry into the death of Diarmuid O'Neill (O'Neill 'in team' that put bombs on bridge, September 27). I do not see what advantage such an investigation would have over our inquiry. The PCA investigation is impartial and I am determined that it will be thorough. The results will go to the Crown Prosecution Service and to HM Coroner.

A Country Diary

THE WREKIN: It's black over Bill's mother's, as we say about the dark rain-laden clouds which slide like continents of night through the sky. No one knows who Bill or his mother is, but she lives wherever there's a brooding storm. The Wrekin looms against stormy skies like a great bonfire. Ignited by the first sparks of autumn, the cold fire spreads among the trees. Birch, rowan and beech are turning gold and copper. The unstoppable conflagration has begun, but the smell is not of burning but of a rich fermenting of wet leaves and the air is thick with the invisible smoke of change. Along the main paths people have kicked over the wonderful fruiting bodies of fungi, a symptom of that old prejudice which regards toadstools as some manifestation of a badness that infects the earth. Under the collapsing bracken and off the beaten track, these wonderfully exotic structures appear from their secret world. On the albow of a beech avenue, there's a grassy bank surrounded by

stunted oaks known as a cock-earth, a cock-earth or charcoal burning place. The clock work call of a pheasant winds down as the old charcoal burners' trail leads deep into woods of ash and beech. The denser the wood, the longer it takes to change and the green along this barely perceptible trail has a strange intransigent quality. Used now by animals and not humans, the trail has other reasons to wander the woods. But what are they and where do they lead? Taking on a new and narrower life, the trail twists upwards and suddenly enters a clearing on a ridge. Here in springy tufts of fescue among lichen-painted rocks are clumps of whimberry (hiberry) whose leaves are turning scarlet, plum and bronze. Looking along the smoky underside of the sky, the plain rolls out to Long Mountain and the Briden hills of Wales. Enclosed by trees, in a place where long ago the charcoal burners worked their fires, the smouldering of autumn shoots sparks into the spirit. PAUL EVANS

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Sir Geoffrey Wilkinson

Formula for a metal sandwich



Patriot... Wilkinson

B LUFF Yorkshireman, Nobel Laureate and a chemist whose dedication to his science...

research in homogeneous catalysis. He shared the 1973 chemistry Nobel Prize with Ernest...

used infra-red and nuclear magnetic resonance spectroscopy to unravel the nature of the bonding of ferrocene...

the presence of what are known as complexed pi-ligands. Wilkinson, whose empirical knowledge was huge...

scattering the first manuscript of his 1962 classic Advanced Organic Chemistry. Supportive of his students...

Sir Geoffrey remained a convivial and ebulliently energetic man. In 1977 he won the American Kirkpatrick Chemical Engineering Award...

work on the unexpected "double-hump" pattern of uranium fission products. Crucial in weapon and reactor developments...

lege in 1956. A great talker, a great fell walker and a major innovator of ideas, he stimulated and enlarged British science in many ways.

Anthony Tucker

Professor Sir Geoffrey Wilkinson, born July 14, 1921; died September 26, 1996

Joan Perry

The Last Tycoon's wife

THERE were three eras in the career of Joan Perry, who has died aged 85. In the 1930s, she was Joan Perry the film star...

wealth and its trappings, a new mink coat every Christmas, a Cadillac for her birthday...

"ten-cents' worth" of advice when she thought it necessary. Reputedly, she persuaded her husband to team Gene Kelly with Rita Hayworth in Cover Girl...

more successful in persuading Harry to fire Kim Novak when the ice-bitch star was photographed in what Joan considered to be a compromising pose with Sammy Davis Junior...



Wild West fan... Grayson, former director of Belle Vue zoo

Peter Grayson Wild man of the zoo

PETER GRAYSON, who has died aged 70, was the last director of Manchester's Belle Vue Zoo. He was the first zoo man in Britain to use showmanship to promote zoos...

publicity. During the World Wildlife Fund's Year of the Tiger in the mid-1970s, he extravagantly claimed he was breeding more tigers in captivity than the WWF was protecting in the wild...



Wheeler-dealer who could make or break careers... Joan Perry

Tim Nicholson

T WAS a commissioning editor that Tim Nicholson, who has committed suicide at the age of 32, had his major success. His founding and editorship of Attitude, with his co-writing partner Janet Phillips, helped revolutionise gay British publishing...

As the associate editor of For Women magazine, he was its driving force. It was a mould-breaking magazine and demonstrated that photography of naked men could be combined with intelligent articles in a way never achieved on men's titles...

Manu Malasa

Timothy Nicholson, journalist, born August 25, 1964; died September 19, 1996

Death Notices

BAHAR, Ghaz. On the 30th September, 1996, peacefully aged 84 years. Formerly of 44, Park Road, and Westchester Nursing Home, Chertsey, Surrey. Buried at Crematorium, Woking on Friday 4th October. Relatives invited to attend the funeral at 11.00 am on Saturday, October 5th, 1996. Enquiries to Charles Stephens Funeral Directors tel 0151 645 450.

Birthdays

Django Bates, jazz musician, 36; Trevor Brooking, footballer, 48; Dr William Cramond, psychiatrist, 76; Lord Davies, chairman, Welsh National Opera, 56; Prof Sir Robin Duthie, chairman, Britoll, 68; Anna Ford, broadcaster, 53; Peter Frankl, pianist, 61; Nigel Greenhill, architect, 54; Diana Hendry, writer, 55; Donna Karan, fashion designer, 48; Annie Leibovitz, photographer, 48; Don McLean, folk singer, 51; Jan Morris, author, 70; Jana Novotna, tennis player, 28; Katherine Ogleby, adult educationalist, 53; James Porter, former director-general, Commonwealth Institute, 68; Vivian Ridler, former Printer to Oxford University, 83; The Rt Rev Lord Runcie, former Archbishop of Canterbury, 75; Lisa St Aubin de Teran, writer, 43; Lord Justice Scott, investigator of Iraqgate, 62; Sting (Gordon Sumner), singer, 45; Gary Streeter, Conservative MP, 41; Dr Duncan Thomson, keeper, Scottish National Portrait Gallery, 62; Rosemary Thorp, economist, 56; Lord Todd OM, chemist, 80; Alan Wells, cricketer, 35; Prof John Whitfield, authority on Italian language and literature, 91.

Jackdaw



Separate views

THIS AREA IS CLOSED FOR RE-FURBISHMENT COMING SOON AN IRISH THEME BAR CALLED "THE JOHN BULL PUB" Tony Boylan spotted this sign at the Charles De Gaulle Airport in Paris when on his recent travels.

Looting lines

1. IF POSSIBLE, you should always have some money on you when intending to shoplift, because if you've got none, it's rather hard to argue that to steal the item was a spontaneous decision. As a result, if you've got no money

and are caught shoplifting you are more likely to be charged for burglary as well as theft. 2. Buying something at the same time that you steal stuff doesn't necessarily ensure success. Approaching staff for items that you are absolutely sure they don't have is just as good. Think of something that you know they don't have and pretend that you are looking for this, so that you have an excuse for being there. 3. It is always a good idea to carry a bag although you should never stash anything in it - if security/sales staff have sussed you, the first place that they'll check is your bag and it might just get you off the hook if they can't find anything suspicious inside of it. 4. Remember that there is no such thing as a standard store detective - there is no qualifying dress code, age, race, gender or class. Grandma will bust you this week and next week it'll be a five-year-old kid. 5. Just as there is no standard store detective, nor is there a

standard shoplifter. Security do not go looking for the poorly dressed people. They may pick on you out of boredom, but remember, only an unsuccessful store detective picks on poorly dressed people. On Entering the Maze: 1. As soon as you enter the store, suss out the sales people. First impressions often count here. You could find a valuable blind-eye turning ally in younger or less-affluent employees. Alternatively, an employee can often stand out as a more wishy-washy gullible individual - so even if they see you they are likely to be too gutless to mention it, either to you or to security. 2. Don't be put off by signs such as "shoplifters will be prosecuted" or "security police patrol this store". Often this is just bluff anyway, and in any case there is no security measure that cannot be undone by a clever shoplifter or a quick talker. Do, however, keep your eye on security and be on the lookout for video surveillance cameras. 3. Try to find where the video

surveillance monitors are and who is watching them; often they are not even looking at them. See if you can get a glance at their monitor. Often it is one monitor hooked up to 20 cameras which changes sequentially (every 30 seconds or so). Other times, it's one guy in a room looking at 50 screens while reading the paper or glued to the box. These monitors are usually pretty small and have a wide aperture, showing more of the room but not enough detail to adequately show what you are up to. 4. It is a good idea to keep your back to the camera as much as possible without looking suspicious. Checkout cameras (hold-up cameras) are often set up to check on employees, so they are not hard to keep your back turned to. Further shoplifting hints from the Maxine Hesterer. Thanks to Michael Jovic.

Home rules

● In Eureka, Nevada, men with moustaches are not allowed to kiss women. ● In Illinois, it is illegal to

give lighted cigars to dogs, cats and other domestic animals. ● In Michigan, a woman's hair is the property of her husband. ● In Connecticut, it is illegal to cross the street on your hands. ● In Pennsylvania, housekeepers are forbidden to sweep dirt and dust under rugs. ● In Arkansas, a man may beat his wife, but not more than once a month. ● In Maryland, the best oysters at your peril. ● In Florida, women commit a crime if they fall asleep under a hairdryer. ● In Dyersburg, Tennessee, it is illegal for a woman to ask a man for a date. ● In Utah, birds have a right of way on all highways. For anyone visiting the States, it might be wise to brush up on the local laws. Printed in Hot Air, the Virgin In-flight magazine.

Dressed codes

IN DECIDING a reasonable standard of dress the

committee has taken the view that the minimum standard considered acceptable is "smart casual" dress - a standard clearly understood and accepted in many sports clubs world-wide. Smart casual would be considered a minimum of slacks (skirts or slacks for ladies) with sports shirt, with collar and sleeves (e.g. polo type shirts) and normal footwear (socks and shoes or sandals).



Local trouble... Hot Air

Shorts (except athletic shorts, swimming shorts or similar) worn with sports shirt, socks, shoes or sandals are also acceptable. To save embarrassment to members or their guests the following are not considered acceptable dress: Any shirt with offensive or provocative message or Football, athletic, gym or beach shorts; cut off jeans or torn denim wear; Flip flops or dilapidated shoes; Bare feet or bare torsos; Any dress which would not, generally, be considered acceptable in a member's club. How to say "We don't want you" entirely through sartorial rules in the Member's Guide of the Sussex County Cricket Club. Thanks to Nicholas Tucker.

Blair song

WE PUT the clause 4 in You take the clause 4 in You stamp on all our principles And shake the leffies out You smile at everybody As you yinle after the floor

That what it's all about Of Tony, Tony, Tony, Of Tony, Tony, Tony, Of Tony, Tony, Tony. You put the right foot out, Blair, Blair, Blair. Asylum in the Sea Land of purgatory, Home of BSE. Scoff your Sunday dinner Laced with CJD. Served with Yorkshire water. What a dainty dish. And it's no use fishing. Cos there ain't no ruddy fish. Sun goes into orbit, Hagg's head on the block. Farmers in an ark. Beafaters run amok. Land of Purgatory Going round the bend. John Bull and blue moolienium Apocowlyptic end. Songs of praise by Lord Btro in the Young Socialist. Thanks to David Bishop.

Jackdaw wants jewels. E-mail jackdaw@guardian.co.uk; fax 0171-713 8266. Jackdaw, The Guardian, 119 Farringdon Road, London EC1R 3ER.

Emily Sheffield

Boom and bust... Mini to have... Eurotour... Drink of survival... MOD sued... plant 'cont... Best-paid man... Murphy and... on the... caused... magazine

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CHEAP electricity from BP's Baglan Bay chemical plant is one carrot to woo investors to an "energy park" intended to revitalise the steel town of Port Talbot, writes Geoffrey Gibbs. The planned 650-acre park is the centrepiece of a £230 million private-public sector regeneration programme, unveiled yesterday, to create more than 3,000 jobs in 10 years. Marketing will be by the Welsh Development Agency. The producers of cult film *Trainspotting* have been among recent occupants of the land, performing a controlled explosion (above) to destroy a set built for their new movie, *Hot Dogs*. PHOTOGRAPH: PHIL FEES

## Clarke hails the benefits of flexible jobs market

Richard Thomas in Washington

**T**HE Chancellor, Kenneth Clarke, yesterday declared that the boom-and-bust cycle of the British economy had finally been broken by the imposition of a flexible, deregulated jobs market.

Addressing a joint session of the World Bank and International Monetary Fund, Mr Clarke said the economy could now keep growing for several years, allowing the dole queue to shrink further, without igniting inflation.

He contrasted the falls in unemployment, stable trade deficit and subdued wage demands with the disastrous state of the economy two decades ago, when Dennis Healey was forced to go cap-in-hand to the IMF for a loan to bail out the government's finances.

"This ironic anniversary is the best evidence of the scale of the British economy over the last two decades," he said. "Our agenda of privatisation, deregulation and labour market reform has made the UK economy more responsive to changes in labour market conditions and less inflation-prone," he said. "This has allowed us to keep interest rates close to their lowest level for 25 years."

Singling out the reduction of trade union powers as a key ingredient in ridding Britain of the inflationary "disease" which brought recoveries to a halt, Mr Clarke said British firms were now less likely to give in to "excessive demands" from their employees.

"Twenty years ago... wage increases were negotiated between the Chancellor and union leaders over beer and sandwiches, but in fact it was a form of unarmed combat," he said.

"Employees were always deceived by the big money increases that industrial militancy appeared to give them. It was not a matter of whether

inflation will spring out of its box but when."

With Mr Clarke in the final stages of the public spending round, he held out the hope of a slow-burn recovery so long as the Government resisted the temptation to cut taxes in an attempt to secure re-election.

The Chancellor told assembled finance ministers and central bankers: "If I can keep the lid on inflation, if I can keep public borrowing coming down, and if I can keep reforming the British economy and making it more flexible, then I am confident the British economy can go from strength to greater strength."

With the Government banking on buoyant consumption, rising house prices and an easing of job insecurity to erode Labour's lead in the opinion polls, Mr Clarke said the UK was well-placed to benefit from an upswing in world economic output.

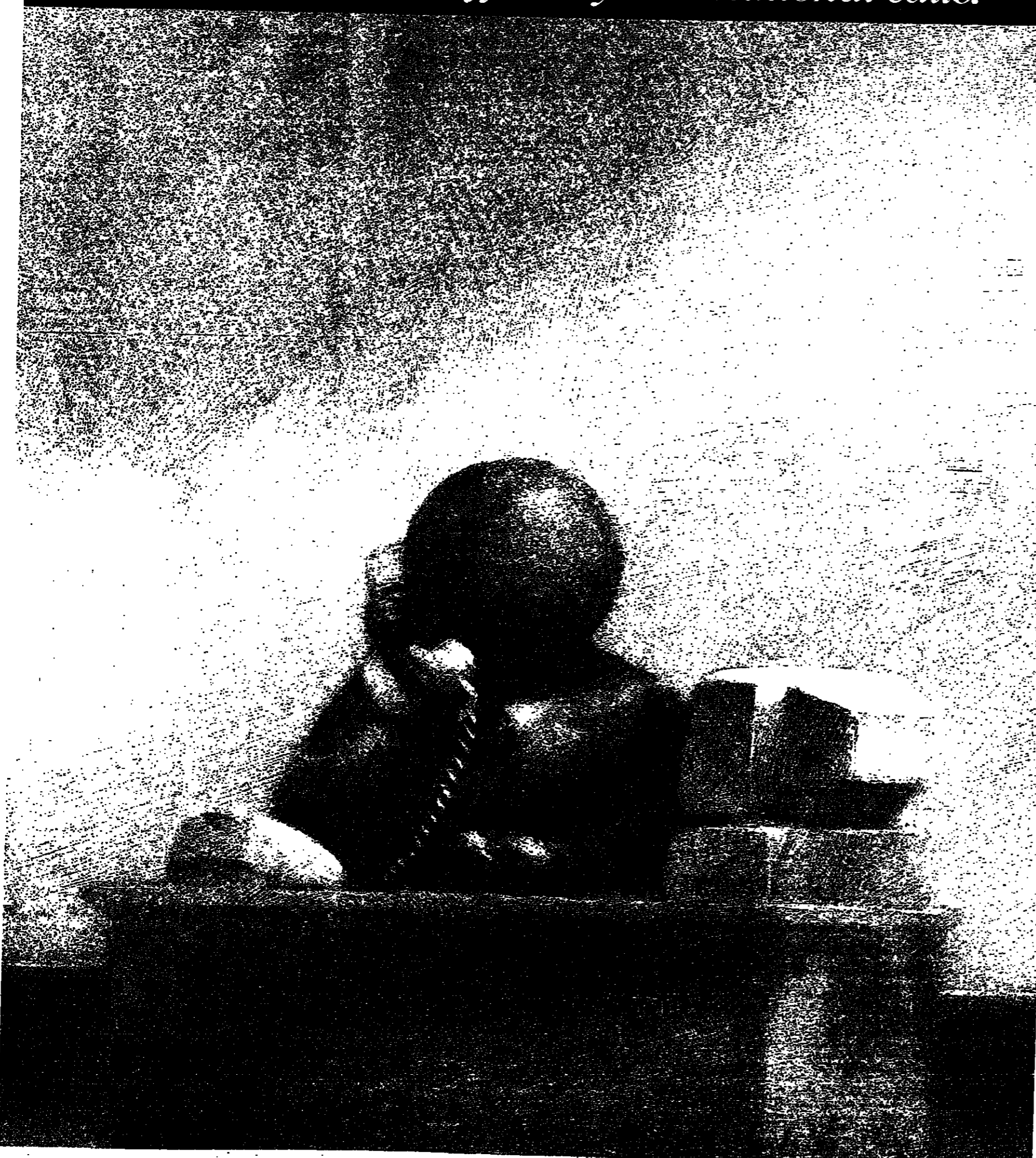
In order to maintain the momentum of international recovery, the Chancellor said the multinational institutions must push ahead for freer cross-border trade. "The vision of global free trade is in all our interests, developed and developing countries alike," he said.

Mr Clarke wants to portray Labour as the only serious threat to the UK's sustained economic recovery, and stresses the need for the Conservatives to attempt to recover some of their battered economic integrity.

"With continued good economic management, this recovery could be the healthiest, the strongest and the longest ever enjoyed by the British people," he said.

Hinting at a cautious budget next month, Mr Clarke said: "My overriding aim when I set the British budget will be to get government borrowing down to a sustainable level. That is the background against which I will judge whether or not the Government can make progress towards its tax-cutting agenda."

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Clarke... "Boom-and-bust cycle of British economy broken"

## Factory boom as consumers buy

**SARAH RYLE on the rise in new orders for capital goods as high streets revive**

**H**OPES that the high-street driven economic recovery is finally benefiting the factory sector were fuelled yesterday as it emerged that manufacturers of capital goods have reported a first time in more than a year.

According to the Chartered Institute of Purchasing Supply's snapshot of manufacturing activity in September, buoyant consumer spending has filtered through to investment goods, as factory bosses began to meet stronger demand with new production.

Although manufacturers of consumer goods continue to experience much fuller order books, the latest figures suggested that the two-tier factory recovery could become a more broadly based upturn.

CIPS director general, Peter Thomson, said: "I am encouraged that, at last, the buoyancy enjoyed by consumer goods industries is filtering through to all other areas of UK manufacturing. The main check on fully fledged

recovery, however, appears to be the continued weakness in European markets."

The survey's overall measure of manufacturing activity registered the fourth rise above 50 per cent (which indicates expansion) in a row, taking the index to 83.4 which was the highest level since April last year.

Slow growth in demand from markets in Europe and the rest of the world, especially for commodities, helped to keep prices competitive, the survey showed.

Manufacturers continued to cut prices last month, although discounting was less furious than in previous months, suggesting inflationary pressure from the sector is benign.

Chancellor Kenneth Clarke, who is known to watch the PMI closely as a guide to the "real" economy, would feel no pressure to move on interest rates as a result of these figures, especially as input prices used to fall, City analysts said.

They dampened down hopes, however, that bosses in the factory sector would respond to increased orders and continuing low price pressures by hiring more staff.

The survey suggested that employers may shed more jobs in order to boost productivity.

Handwritten Arabic text: ٥٥٠٠٠٠٠٠

hails benefits... market... om as buy

Racing

Dazzle has no answer to Reponse

Chris Hawkins

DAZZLE dealt her 1,000th Guinness supporters a nasty blow when losing her unbeaten record in spectacular style in the Goodwood Stew... Cheveley Park Stakes at Newmarket yesterday.

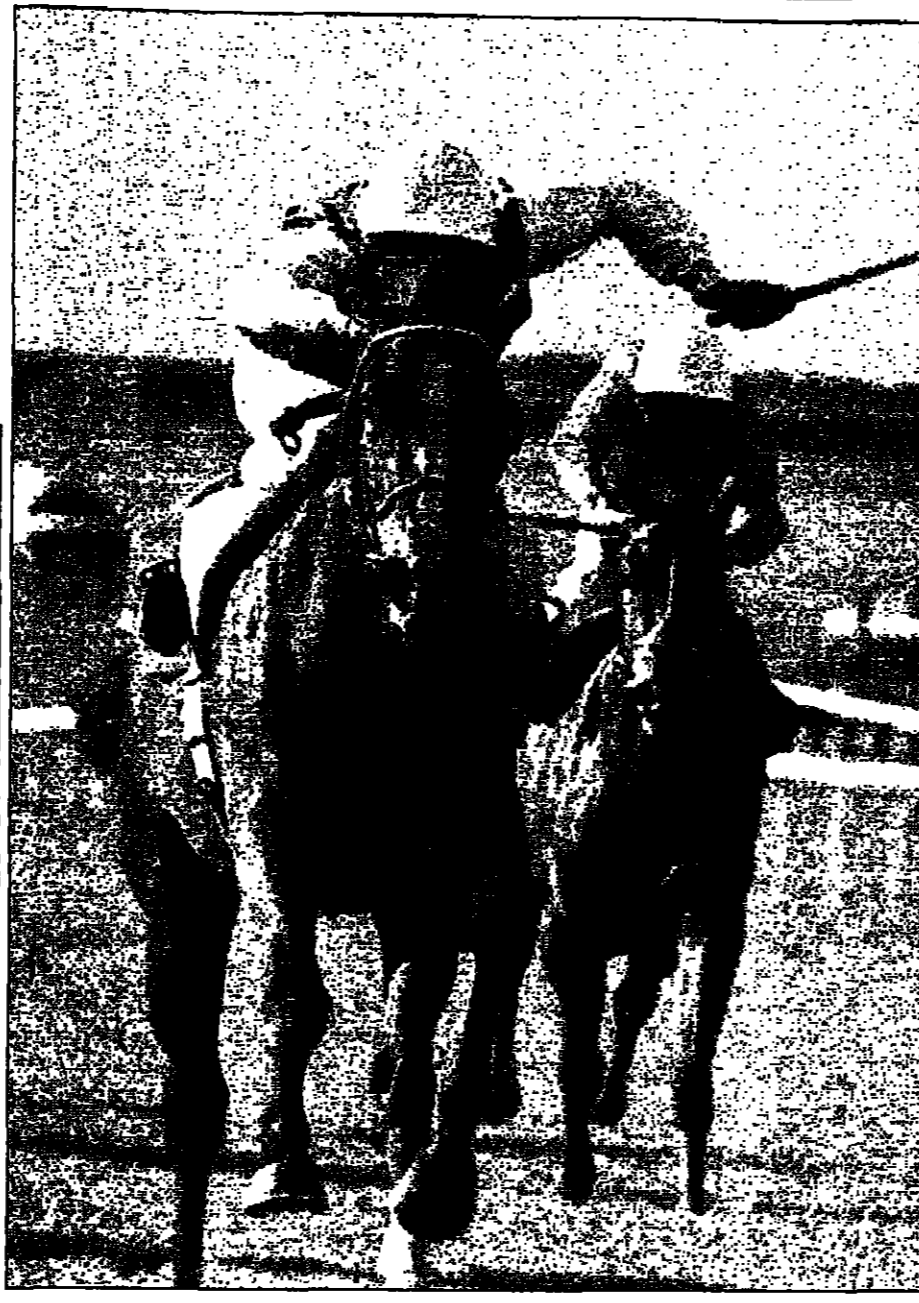
Totally failing to reproduce her midsummer form, she finished no nearer than fourth behind Pas de Reponse, the French-trained filly who gave Cheveley Head a third win in the race following Mrs Bichen and Ravinella...

The post-mortems into Dazzle's disappointing effort began immediately and it is fair to say connections were not over-encouraged with the ride Keiren Fallon gave her.

Both Michael Stoute, the trainer, and Chris Richardson, racing manager at Cheveley Park Stud, the owners, thought Dazzle was given plenty to do after being bumped out of the race for the first three furlongs.

Richardson commented: "It was a tall order expecting her to come from there in a slow-race race."

In fact the time was not that slow, just 0.16 seconds over the six furlongs course standard, and Fallon made the excuse that Dazzle didn't handle the dip.



At the head... Pas de Reponse wins the Cheveley Park Stakes

home just over a furlong out. Pas de Reponse was going well when hitting the top line but had to push out to hold Moonlight Paradise, the pick of the paddock, by a length.

Papua, trained by the in-form Ian Balding, picked up a £100,000 bonus when winning the Tattersalls Houghton Sales Stakes at Newmarket yesterday.

Papua sails in for bonus

PAPUA, trained by the in-form Ian Balding, picked up a £100,000 bonus when winning the Tattersalls Houghton Sales Stakes at Newmarket yesterday.

At the head... Pas de Reponse wins the Cheveley Park Stakes

SPORTS NEWS 13

Salisbury

Table with 2 columns: Race details and Odds. Races include 1.40 Other Club, 2.10 Hunt Cup, etc.

Table with 2 columns: Race details and Odds. Race 1.40 includes 1. RABBIT (15) M Chance 9-0, etc.

Table with 2 columns: Race details and Odds. Race 2.10 includes 1. BOYBIRD (10) M Chance 9-0, etc.

Table with 2 columns: Race details and Odds. Race 2.40 includes 1. SPREAD THE WORD (21) M Control 4-7, etc.

Table with 2 columns: Race details and Odds. Race 3.10 includes 1. 12411 MAGICAL TIMES (11) M J Ross 5-4, etc.

Table with 2 columns: Race details and Odds. Race 3.40 includes 1. 2225-56 GOSWORTHY PARK (10) M H-Eu 4-9-12, etc.

Table with 2 columns: Race details and Odds. Race 4.10 includes 1. BLUE IMPERIA (1) H-Eu 9-0, etc.

Table with 2 columns: Race details and Odds. Race 4.40 includes 1. 0010-09 BARRERO (2) J J Collins 5-16, etc.

Table with 2 columns: Race details and Odds. Race 5.10 includes 1. ABBEY MILLERS (1) M-Cent 9-0, etc.

Table with 2 columns: Race details and Odds. Race 5.40 includes 1. 0000-00 EASTON (10) M-Cent 5-16, etc.

Table with 2 columns: Race details and Odds. Race 6.10 includes 1. 2000-00 EASTON (10) M-Cent 5-16, etc.

Table with 2 columns: Race details and Odds. Race 6.40 includes 1. 0000-00 EASTON (10) M-Cent 5-16, etc.

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Table with 2 columns: Race details and Odds. Race 10.10 includes 1. 0000-00 EASTON (10) M-Cent 5-16, etc.

Table with 2 columns: Race details and Odds. Race 10.40 includes 1. 0000-00 EASTON (10) M-Cent 5-16, etc.

Table with 2 columns: Race details and Odds. Race 11.10 includes 1. 0000-00 EASTON (10) M-Cent 5-16, etc.

Table with 2 columns: Race details and Odds. Race 11.40 includes 1. 0000-00 EASTON (10) M-Cent 5-16, etc.

Brighton card with guide to the latest form

Table with 2 columns: Race details and Odds. Races include 2.20 Gold Edge, 2.30 Atlantic Prince, 2.50 Glamour, 2.50 Golden Thunderbolt.

Exeter (N.H.)

Table with 2 columns: Race details and Odds. Races include 2.15 Chief House, 2.45 Chief House, 3.15 Chief House, 3.45 Chief House.

Newcastle

Table with 2 columns: Race details and Odds. Races include 2.00 Rhocreas, 2.30 In Good Luck, 2.50 Sir Arthur Hobbs, 3.00 Keaton Pond.

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Channel 4's Classic deal

VIEWERS of terrestrial television are assured all five Classics until the year 2001, thanks to a new contract between Channel 4 and a consortium of leading racecourses announced yesterday.



Rugby Union

Wasps irate at apathy of Welsh clubs

Robert Armstrong

WASPS have demanded up to £15,000 compensation and called for an immediate meeting of English and Welsh clubs to seek guarantees on the new Anglo-Welsh competition after tonight's game...

North, the Welsh champions, told Wasps they were unable to select a viable front row because of injuries and call-ups to the Wales squad for Saturday's international in Italy...

Yesterday Geoff Huckstep, Wasps' chief executive, said he would be sending a letter outlining "the direct costs and hidden costs" entailed in cancelling the fixture...

and Bath at Stradey Park. Welsh clubs had won only one out of 10 Anglo-Welsh fixtures, Bridgend beating Wasps last month...

"Admittedly some of the English clubs have also put out below-strength sides but at least they've been good enough to win their games," said Huckstep...

This season Wasps have also invested heavily in portable floodlights for half a dozen matches at Sudbury, including three Anglo-Welsh fixtures, with an outlay of £30,000 on 1,200 extra seats...

The postponement has come as a bitter blow to the former Bath lock Andy Reed, who was poised to make his debut for Wasps after a lengthy lay-off through injury...



Over but not out... Brian Moore, last of the top-flight amateurs, shows the strain after Richmond's 20-20 draw with Newcastle on Saturday

Moore the merrier among the pros

Paul Morgan finds Pit-bull enjoying life with the fitness freaks and fat cats at Richmond, playing on borrowed time and no pay

WHEN Richmond take the field against Moseley on Saturday one of their team will be there purely for love of the game. Ironically he was at the forefront of the move into professionalism...

other 29 are enjoying the generosity of the Monaco-based millionaire Ashley Levett or Sir John Hall. Moore's job as a solicitor, once so useful in helping to broker deals for his England team-mates, now prevents him from devoting his life to rugby...

promotion work or with schools, but only when I have time. Richmond was the perfect club to play for; it is nice to be part of such an ambitious club. Moore, who left Harlequins last season, believes he will be one of the last to play at the top in England as an amateur...

Sport in brief

Woodbridge falls to resurgent Rusedski

GREG RUSEDSKI yesterday scored one of the best victories of his tennis career when he trounced Australia's Todd Woodbridge, ranked 34 and fifth seed in the tournament, 6-3, 6-1 in the first round of the first round Open in Singapore...

Essex's Sam Smith, 24, is certain to rise from No. 3 to top of the British women's rankings and improve her international ranking of 214 when the Women's Tennis Association publishes its next world list on Monday...

Jumping the Channel

The British Olympic show jumper Nick Skelton, John Whitaker and Geoff Billington plan to commute between the Horse of the Year Show, which opens the five-day run at Wembley today, and the German Classic in Bremen which starts on Friday, writes John Kerr...

Martin misses big chance

Jane Martin, the 24-year-old squash player from Newcastle who beat Australia's Liz Irving at the British Open in April, has back trouble and has had to withdraw from both the Parley World Open and the world team event in Kuala Lumpur on October 14-19...

Wigan chairman goes for trial

The trial of Wigan's Jack Robinson was set for March 10 yesterday when the rugby league club chairman pleaded not guilty at Bolton Crown Court to attempting to pervert the course of justice...

Young Lyle goes to the Devils

Cardiff Devils have re-signed their netminder Steve Lyle, who had also interested Beeston and Manchester's hockey clubs, writes Vic Bitchelder. The 16-year-old returned last week from the Detroit Whalers' pre-season training camp...

Cowboys back on the trail

After their poor start to the American football season the Dallas Cowboys regained some of their Superbowl-winning form with a 23-19 win over the Philadelphia Eagles in the NFC East division, their second win in five games...

Polgar in England's way

After beating Israel 2½-1½ at the Erevan chess Olympiad, England's men were in contention for bronze in last night's final round against Judith Polgar and the talented young Hungarians, writes Leonard Barden...

Clubs agree on a compensation package over the former All Black at the insistence of the Welsh Rugby Union

Botica for Llanelli as Orrell accept recompense

THE row between Llanelli and Orrell over Franco Botica was finally resolved before the Welsh club's match against Bath last night. The two clubs thrashed out a compensation package, which includes a friendly fixture to be played at Orrell this season...

Nottingham's chairman Bryan Ford said: "Although discussions are at a very early stage the two clubs agree they have much to offer each other. Our aim is to ensure first-class rugby union continues to be played in Nottingham and we are excited by the opportunities we may be able to develop with Sheffield Eagles..."

manager Jo Maso is angry with Dourthe for again stepping out of line and is prepared to leave him out for as long as necessary. Dourthe, who has to make amends. The Springboks are touring (in late November and early December) and the team spirit must be radically different...

Boxing

Rooney wins second round

MIKE TYSON was today pondering whether to appeal against the award of \$4.1 million (more than £2.6 million) by a New York jury to his former trainer Kevin Rooney. Tyson dismissed Rooney in 1988 for comments on television about Tyson's then wife Robin Givens...

Sailing

Two steal march

Simon Walker and the crew of Toshiba Wave Warrior continue to lead the BT Global Challenge fleet after two days at sea. Only just. They were one mile ahead of Chris Tibbs's Concert yesterday afternoon, half-way across the Bay of Biscay...

Cricket

Rupees and red tape for Lara

BRIAN LARA had to duck bureaucratic bouncers and faced instant dismissal when he flew into Bombay from Johannesburg to pick up yet another Cricketer of the Year award, plus a sponsor's cheque for 500,000 rupees (£9,000), at the weekend...

Rugby League

Super League D-Day

Andy Wilson in Madli

THE long-awaited appeal decision on the battle for the game in Australia is expected to be revealed on Friday. If the result goes the way of Super League, Great Britain may play a match against Australia on their current South Seas tour after all...

The rugby league world will be holding its breath when the appeal court in Sydney hands down its verdict. The Super League lost its original court case against the Australian Rugby League, meaning that the media magnate Rupert Murdoch's organisation could not get started in Australia...

As chairman of the International Board, he added: "I am desperate to see a positive solution to the recent difficulties." Meanwhile, the Lions' hopes of recruiting Paul Newsham as a replacement for Jonathan Roper, the young Warrington centre, for the three-Test series against New Zealand have been dashed by further injury to the St Helens centre, Newlove, who originally pulled out of the tour with hamstring and foot injuries, underwent a knee operation yesterday...

Roper injured a knee in the tour opener in Papua New Guinea last Wednesday. He has shown signs of a quick recovery and will be given until the end of the week before a decision is made. "But it looks as if he would not be available for three or four weeks, and that would put him out of the tour," said the coach Phil Larder. "The most obvious replacement to augment a back line described by Larder as 'skimpy' would be Salford's Nathan McAvooy, who is heading for New Zealand as captain of Great Britain's under-19 Academy squad. But Larder is loath to deprive him of the latter opportunity..."

The Warrington prop Rowland Phillips is definitely out of Saturday's Test against Fiji after an infected cyst on his face was drained and removed yesterday. The Lions tackle a Fijian President's XIII at Lautoka this morning under a new captain, James Lowe, seeking their third win out of three. Warrington completed a hat-trick of signings from Auckland Warriors with the utility back Nigel Vagana and forward Tony Tatu following the prop Dallas Mead. Wire also completed the signing of Martin Dermott, the 29-year-old Wigan and former Great Britain hooker.

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Friday October 2 1996. anelli United. Walsley rebuilding... helsea Hughes. draw. urwich.

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Hodgson under an Italian cloud, page 14

Wasps blame vanishing Welsh, page 15

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# Sports Guardian

**Goldstone faces more games behind closed doors after angry fans once again stopped play last night**



Unauthorised entry... police and stewards move to restore order after 150 fans occupied the centre circle last night at the Goldstone Ground

Report by Peter Nichols

## Pitch invasion caps Brighton misery

**B**RIGHTON face the threat of playing behind closed doors and having three points deducted after supporters invaded the pitch during last night's Third Division game against Lincoln at the Goldstone Ground. Play was halted for 12 minutes in the first half.

Players off the pitch. Trouble had been anticipated as fans were angry at the breakdown of talks between the club chairman Bill Archer and the consortium headed by Dick Knight wanting to take over the club. But appeals to stay calm went unheeded. There was already a volatile atmosphere, with constant cries of "Archer out" before matters spilled over in the 25th minute after Gareth Ainsworth had given Lincoln a 25th-minute lead.

That was the signal for around 50 Brighton supporters from the North Stand to invade the pitch and the referee immediately took the teams to the safety of the dressing-rooms. Another 100 or so supporters from other sections of the ground then spilled on to the pitch and the entire group eventually congregated in the centre circle before leaving *en bloc* to return to the North Stand.

Shortly after the players were brought back on to the pitch the Brighton defender Peter Smith brought the first cheer of the night for the home side with a 33rd-minute equaliser.

As invasions come, it was brief and bloodless by Goldstone standards. There was only one arrest. But the damage may have been done.

Archer, the object of the supporters' disaffection, was not there to witness the protest. If his DIY stores sell welcome mats, there will not be a run on stock from Brighton supporters. In a club, indeed a town, of disparate interests he has achieved the singular distinction of giving his club supporters an absolute unity of purpose: to get rid of him.

## Never a good time to take the Mickey



Jim White

**S**INCE football fans are masochists to the core, it is no surprise that they spend as much time in pubs assembling their nightmare team as they do their Fantasy XI. Picking the worst squad you can think of is to draw pleasure from those who have inflicted pain.

The first name on my horror team-sheet is always Mickey Thomas, the Welsh wally, the wing man with the clipped appendages. It wasn't simply that he was a fitful performer, or that he wore his hair in an early Karel Poborsky. What made me loathe him was that he committed the ultimate sin of replacing Gordon Hill, my hero in the Manchester United team of my formative years.

Hill was sold for £250,000 in 1978 after scoring 51 goals in 123 appearances. Thomas cost £200,000 to fill his shirt and proceeded to score 15 goals in 110 appearances. No piece of business better summed up the pointlessness of Dave Sexton's time in charge at Old Trafford than that.

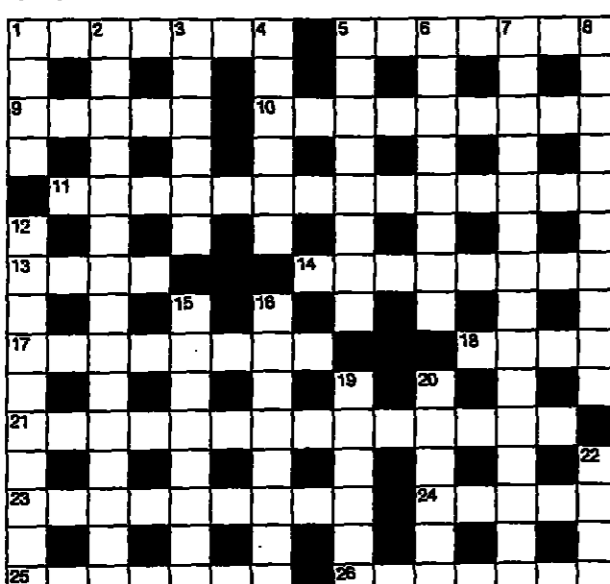
sex, death, bribery, corruption, violence, rumour and humour (about) the game of two halves.

Between them these authors have scoured every cutting library known to man in search of prurient tales of bad boys from Edwardian times to the present day. Gary Lineker, incidentally, makes no appearance in either tome.

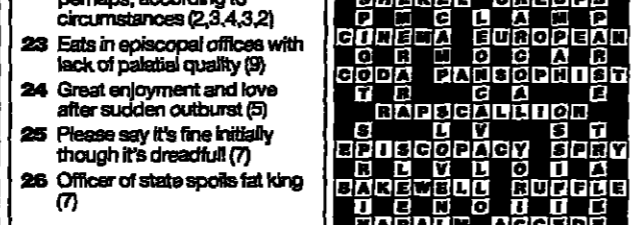
This fascination with the footballer as naughty schoolboy has developed apace these past few years, perhaps as a reaction to the growth of the footballer as celebrity, a glorious, superhuman figure worthy of unconditional worship or at least \$25.99 for his personalised duvet cover. When these creatures are found to have feet of clay we feel more comfortable in our own mediocrity.

And once our heroes seem more like one of us, we can re-humanise them. George Best, for all his skill, would have had all the appeal of a robot had he lived like a priest in private (though if Bishop Roderrick Wright is indicative, that is exactly how he did live). But when Mickey Thomas is elevated to icon, it seems to me that inverted hero-worship has gone too far.

### Guardian Crossword No 20,773



Set by Pasquale



- Across**
- 1 Pillow allows one clashing off to grab a bit of sleep (7)
  - 5 Abandoned in a depression, Germany felt irritation (7)
  - 9 Desire greatly to be a partner in the Herriot team? (5)
  - 10 Raiders providing members of small community with new leader (8)
  - 11 Think route diverted on account of the grand orator (5,5,4)
  - 13 Man who doesn't quite get the note on the piano? (4)
  - 14 Boss has strategem to block returning engineers (8)
  - 17 Challenge to introduce English legislation in US state (8)
  - 18 Paddy's money may be bet on a horse (4)

- Down**
- 1 Support reinstated? (4)
  - 2 Hope is the name of one in a terminal situation in London (9,5)
  - 3 Little monster interrupting jazz quartet (6)
  - 4 Fret about something with many needles? (5)
  - 5 Barrels covering over ancient depression (8)
  - 6 A shifty learner going off the rails in a worthless manner (8)
  - 7 I chose my brush on becoming a painter (10,5)
  - 8 Some French plan to catch rodent — here are the things you need (10)
  - 12 Machines girls installed under downward air current (10)
  - 15 Diminutive relation on board offering items to keep the kids quiet? (8)
  - 16 Shop in which produce is only made from the top stuff? (8)

## Kanchelskis lure angers Everton

**E**VERTON will lodge an official complaint with Fifa over the conduct of an agent who is seemingly intent on luring Andrei Kanchelskis to Italy.

Twenty-four hours after the Russian international, Everton's top scorer last season with 16 league goals, admitted that last month he was approached by a third party claiming to represent Fiorentina, the Merseyside club announced that they would contact

world football's governing body. They will allege that Vincenzo Morabito made an illegal approach to a player under contract and in direct contravention of Fifa's regulations.



Kanchelskis... Italian job?

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